

WEEKEND, March 6-8, 2015

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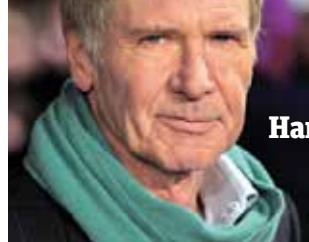


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Harrison Ford goes down piloting vintage plane

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Post-sec rejections jump over 200%

Education. MRU prez says funding boost needed to admit additional learners

 JEREMY NOLAIS
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Prospective post-secondary undergrads are facing staggering odds to gain entrance to their program of choice when compared to peers who've come before them, according to data provided by a city institution.

Overall, the number of qualified applicants not offered admission to a Calgary school shot up to 7,045 in 2013-14, a 211 per cent increase over numbers seen in 2009-10.

The lack of access is particularly problematic at Mount Royal University, which provided the figures. That school has seen its number of turned-away students jump 291 per cent to 2,742 in 2013-14. It's now anticipated that with a downturn in the Alberta economy many more

will turn back to school to upgrade or ride out the job-market decline.

"I've said it to the government so I'll say it here — it doesn't stop at Grade 12," said Mount Royal president David Docherty in a sit-down interview. "Now, we're going to even see increased demand. It's important ... we don't turn kids away from school when they're ages four to 16; why are we turning them away when they're 17 and 18? That's part of the conversation we have to push home."

Data published by the province in December anticipated that Calgary post-secondary schools would be 4,600 seats short of student demand come the 2022-23 school year.

The U of C has also reported previously that it's now only enrolling one student for every 2.71 applicants, up from 2.10 in 2009-10. Mount Royal's data, meanwhile, indicates the odds are just as stacked at its school, with just one of every 2.74 students being enrolled this past fall.

To see which programs are toughest to get into, head to pages 20 and 21



TAKING A LOOK IN THE MIRROR

Is our \$7-billion budget hole really unprecedented? Metro looks back at the message we've heard from previous provincial leaders when the predictable boom-and-bust cycle takes square aim at Alberta's budget. Can you see the difference? See pages 16 and 17 for more coverage.

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Flames. New arena details on their way

The Calgary Flames were a red-hot topic in town Thursday, but it had nothing to do with the team's push for the Stanley Cup playoffs.

Calgary Flames president and CEO Ken King told Kiss 95.9 hosts "Mookie and Billie-Joe" on Thursday that a new arena announcement is coming within weeks and the location will be downtown.

King said he first wants to sit down with Mayor Naheed Nenshi before going public with plans for the long-awaited Saddledome replacement.

Mayor Nenshi's office did confirm they have a meeting set up with the Calgary Flames brass "sometime in the next two weeks." Though Nenshi wasn't immediately available for comment, his position on not using public money for the project was reiterated in an email to Metro.

King told the radio hosts it was important to involve the mayor.

"I think, in fairness to him, he's the first person that should see the fully flushed plan — and will be," King said. "I can't wait to take it public. I think it's going to be fun and it's not controversial. I think people will love what they see and like the funding mechanisms — they'll like the whole package, I really believe that."

Rumours have swirled over a potential location — the West Village, a northwest Calgary sports complex where McMahon Stadium is currently located or near their current Stampede Park site — though an actual landing spot is being kept under lock and key. METRO

Telling stories from around the block

Ramsay. Comic-strip writer finds plenty of inspiration in her own Calgary neighbourhood

JENNIFER FRIESEN
calgary.metronews.ca

Sam Hester has been writing comics about her cross-continent adventures for years. As a flight attendant, she always sought out new stories to tell from the streets of Germany or the English countryside.

"I grew up in Calgary but I never knew what was going on here," she said. "Even though I lived here, I didn't know anyone on my street; I didn't know what was happening in town at all."

But after going on maternity leave for her first child, the Ontario College of Art and Design grad had to stay on the ground and began writing comics about Ramsay.

"I had to find the meaningful stories in my own neighbourhood," she said. "And I realized — what should have been no surprise — that there was more inspiration than I could ever want on my own block."

In 2012, Hester began illustrating a full-page comic strip for the Ramsay community newsletter. Her monthly comics included maps, stories about motherhood and conversations with people on the street. She said the stories are universal, but it took her



Sam Hester has spent three years writing comic strips about her Calgary neighbourhood. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

Quoted

"People in Canada grow up reading books about other places, not realizing that their own stories have the same merit as those from Paris or Tokyo."

Comic-strip writer Sam Hester, who spent three years writing stories about Ramsay

time to see them in her own backyard.

"People in Canada grow up reading books about other places, not realizing that their own stories have the same merit as those from

Paris or Tokyo," she said. "But why not? The same human dramas are unfolding. It still matters."

Martin L'Heureux, co-editor of the Ramsay community newsletter, said that he's heard from the community that readership has grown since 2012.

"Our mandate's always been to weave the community together, that's what we strive to do, and the comics are a part of that," he said. "You want the poetry and the magic of where you live."

As of January, Hester no longer posts the comics in the newsletter but will compile the Ramsay comic collection in a book for the Calgary Comic Expo this April.

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Drumheller zoo's lack of anti-venom deemed 'crazy'

Wildlife. Special team from Ontario called in to claim dangerous Reptile World snakes



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Venomous snakes were on display at a southern Alberta zoo for nearly three decades, despite there being no antidote in the province to stave off the harmful toxin they carry.

"It's like driving a car without a seat belt or jumping out of a plane without a parachute — it's crazy," said Bry Loyst, a curator called in from Ontario to take possession of the potentially dangerous snakes at the now-closed Reptile World in Drumheller.

"But believe it or not, there are public facilities and private people out there who have venomous snakes but no anti-venom."

Billed as the largest exhibit of its kind in Canada, Reptile World was shut in mid-February after former staff complaints prompted an SPCA investigation. No charges have been announced to date.

Zoo owner Dave Bethel surrendered 55 reptiles on Feb. 12. They were transported to



It's unclear if these two snakes at Drumheller's Reptile World were venomous, but as many as 30 other snakes were. METRO FILE

facilities in Ontario, including the Indian River Reptile Zoo where Loyst serves as curator.

Another 138 live reptiles were seized by the SPCA five days later, and 75 corpses were found in freezers on the premises.

But now details are trickling out about the daunting — and seemingly dangerous — logistics of finding new homes for Bethel's creatures, some of which became local celebri-

ties as 40,000 visitors passed through the doors of the zoo annually.

The SPCA said in a statement it was unable to assess the condition of the 20 to 30 venomous snakes "because it was determined that a full assessment posed too great a risk to human safety."

Loyst's team was called in to assist and carted anti-venom with them on a plane, which is not ideal because it must be

kept refrigerated.

Alberta Health Services does stock one type of anti-venom, CroFab, but it's good only for treating toxin from rattlesnakes.

"AHS does not stock other types of snake anti-venoms, as no other species of poisonous snakes are indigenous to Alberta," spokesman Bruce Conway said in an email. He added that CroFab is kept in the southern parts of the province

where the rattlesnake population is most concentrated.

Loyst, however, said various types of venomous vipers and cobras were kept alongside the rattlesnakes at Reptile World.

Jamie Hanlon, a spokesman for Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development, which is tasked with permitting zoos, said all but one of the venomous snakes were transferred to facilities in Ontario "that were capable of

managing the reptiles."

Asked about potential dangers associated with the venomous snakes, Hanlon said regulations stipulate such creatures must be kept in enclosures designed to prevent escape.

Loyst, however, said provincial and federal government officials were "very concerned" about the transfer of the snakes and he kept in close contact with two expert physicians south of the border during the move.

He questioned too just how safe the working environment was for Reptile World staff.

"A snakebite anywhere is one of the worst medical nightmares ever," he said.

"If you go into the hospital for a car accident, they know what to do. You go in for cancer, they know what to do. A snakebite, most physicians never see that, and if they do, it's their first time."

Hanlon wouldn't say whether the Reptile World situation would prompt changes to provincial zoo regulations.

It's believed the facility was the only one in the province to house venomous snakes.

Follow Jeremy Nolais on Twitter @Metro_Nolais



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Wild horses graze on the Eden Valley Reserve, Alta. in 2011. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Horse allies watch over Alberta cull

Preservation. Activists camp out in cars to observe, document as 33 'wildies' were captured in Ghost River

 HELEN PIKE
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Providing a watchful eye — from capture to the Innisfail Auction Market — that's the goal a group of Albertans during this year's wild horse cull.

Alberta's Environmental and Sustainable Resource Development department (ESRD) held the 2015 capturing season last month. The focus this year, according to their FAQ page was on "young males, considered the most appropriate for adoption."

The ESRD said on its page it hires independent wranglers to lure ponies into baited corrals — which is where a group of horse-allies keep a watchful eye on the process.

Tucked away in the brush, a handful of passionate activists with the group Help Alberta Wildies camped out in cars to observe and document the capture of 33 wild horses in the Ghost River area west of Calgary.

"We were able to discover four of the capture sites this

Discrepancies

Mann said according to her numbers there were discrepancies in how many horses were captured and sold.

- Although the auction reported horses went to loving homes, when she attended the sale she saw ponies left out — adding although the market might have said so, it was not a "Walt Disney ending."

year," said Shannon Mann, a backyard activist who works with Help Alberta Wildies. "As soon as we found them, we went out to monitor."

Mann had camped out in the frigid weather during the last cull, and said the temperature was a nice change, but what she and others saw while on their stakeouts was troubling.

Mann said they were counting horses, inspecting structures used to corral them and even watching as wranglers rope horses into submission, but didn't interfere. Yet she feels her presence and watchful eye keeps the ESRD accountable.

Only 14 horses went to auction. The rest were snapped up by the Wild Horses of Alberta Society for adoption.

Health

Leader, innovator Frank dies at 65

Alberta's medical community lost one of its leaders this week, as Dr. Cy Frank passed away at the age of 65.

Frank was an orthopaedic surgeon, president and CEO of Alberta Health Innovates and professor of medicine at the U of C. He's being remembered as an in-

novator in his field and "one of the most respected leaders in Canadian health care," said Minister of Health, Stephen Mandel.

"Cy Frank was one of the truly great human beings I have known. There are many other wonderful leaders in our health system, but there is no one else quite like Cy. He is gone far too soon, and I will miss him," Mandel said in a prepared release.

METRO

Alternate route alert!

Water main break closes Glenmore

Westbound lanes of Glenmore Trail east of Ogden Road SE will remain closed throughout Thursday evening and into Friday due to water main repairs, according to the City of Calgary.

A two-way traffic detour is setup in the eastbound lanes to direct traffic. Commuters are advised to use alternate

routes such as Barlow Trail.

Wednesday night at approximately 8 p.m., a water main running parallel to the road was damaged during unrelated construction work in the area.

The road has been closed since Thursday afternoon for excavation. The pipe needed to be dug up and examined to assess damage and make a fix.

The city was able to isolate the damaged area and no businesses went without water service. METRO



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Budget struggle at heart of route redo

Transit. Southeast gets more service while northwest, Acadia, downtown shuttle see reductions

 HELEN PIKE
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As Calgary grows and changes, its transit system remains stuck trying to keep up with both budget and customer satisfaction struggles.

On Monday, a set of new, eliminated and changed routes will roll out, adding much-needed service to the southeast of the city while eliminating and cutting down on under-performing routes, or routes with alternate options available — something transit planning manager Neil McKendrick said is a never-ending balancing act that's likely to be around for years to come.

Transit is running on a 10,000-hour deficit as decided by city council in 2015.

Although the new routes will allow the city to cross a few new neighbourhoods off the "to-do list" in the southeast, McKendrick said there are still more areas that lack service — he knows because transit keeps a close watch on Calgary's growth — but no dollars to get service to these areas.

Transit is also investing capital dollars to improve Route 302, connecting southeast to the downtown.

"There's a rather lengthy list of areas that need service that aren't going to get it," said McKendrick. "We have a little bit of money in 2016 ... we have enough service hours to add one more route, and in 2018 we have enough service hours to add one more route, but only for peak periods."

Calgarians cried foul on Twitter and Reddit, asking why cuts are being made so drastic-

See the list

There are over 20 changes being implemented to transit routes. A list can be found at: calgarytransit.com/news/spring-service-changes

ally in the northwest. One post even suggested tweeting at Mayor Naheed Nenshi or calling Coun. Ward Sutherland's office to complain — though when Metro rang up Sutherland, he said no one had been calling, and he'd only read one complaint on Twitter.

Kristal Turner lives right beside one of the affected routes, and said she didn't see a sign up and was surprised to learn about the new hours of operation through a friend.

"I would agree there's a fair bit of redundancy in the northwest," said Turner. "But cutting back the times when it doesn't run that often doesn't seem



Cuts to routes may come as a surprise to some Calgary Transit users after service cuts in the northwest help pad out the southeast routes. METRO FILE

like the best idea."

McKendrick said a majority of the routes were being under-used or were part of duplicate options, and although it pains transit to disturb people's commute, it's also irresponsible for them to keep under-per-

forming routes.

"We looked at Route 9, for example, and on weekdays there's about 10 people riding it after eight o'clock in the evening on a weekday," said McKendrick. "While we feel badly about those 10 people,

they have other choices; they may not be the best choice."

He added that it's not just the northwest affected; the downtown shuttle, Route 306 in the southwest, Acadia in the southeast and other routes were also altered.

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Grassroots. Formerly homeless man says agency leaders need to seek more advice from those they serve



ROBSON FLETCHER

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A former oil executive who spent a decade in and out of homelessness says Alberta's plan to make its services more adaptable to clients' needs is "exactly" what needs to be done, but he's not confident those in charge will do it right.

Doug, a 56-year-old Calgary resident, recently moved into a subsidized apartment after about 10 years of transient living. After going through a costly divorce while wrestling with a struggling business and tax disputes with Revenue Canada, he found himself with nowhere to turn except emergency shelters, and credits a single employee at the Mustard Seed for finally helping him re-stabilize his life.

The type of thoughtful, sin-

Quoted

"The people that are in charge of these programs have got to be in touch with the people that they're taking care of. Manage from the bottom up, not the top down."

Doug, a former oil and gas executive who spent years living in his car and emergency shelters. Metro agreed to not publish his last name.



Helping people get off the streets takes individual attention, trust, and careful listening, says a formerly homeless man who spent 10 years living transiently, often in his car or emergency shelters. METRO FILE

cere, and individual attention she offered him is the best way — maybe the only way — for homeless people to truly find their way out, Doug said, but it's hard to come by.

"They're expected to seek out the resources on their own and don't have the capabilities to do it," he said. "Even for me, it was a massive struggle to get the help I needed."

That's something Human Services assistant deputy minister Susan Taylor hopes to change.

"We have, as a system, expected people to adapt to our systems to get service," she told a gathering of the Calgary Homeless Foundation (CHF) this week.

"That's not OK, and it's not the way we're going to continue as we go forward. We want to flip that, and we want

to be able to have the systems adapt to people's needs."

Doug said that approach is "bang on" but added, "I don't think any of them know how to do it."

Calgary's dozens of agencies each come with their own bureaucracy, he said, and each has a different intake process, often requiring people to tell their stories over and over.

"It varies every time you go in," he said. "And not only that, you don't want to give information. You're homeless. You're embarrassed as hell."

That's a problem the CHF has worked to overcome with its Homeless Management Information System, which shares client information — to a degree — between agencies.

Darryn Werth, senior director of program strategy with CUPS, said Alberta's privacy laws often give agencies a "fear of what we can or cannot share" but, in reality, a lot of clients' personal information is already out there.

"If you really need information on your clients go to Facebook, you'll find it there," he told the CHF gathering this week, later adding: "An integrated system would allow them to tell their story once."

Doug said it's hard enough for homeless people to open up to an agency worker even once, but that's key to getting at the reason why they ended up homeless, which is key to breaking the cycle.

"There has to be a level of trust there," he said. "You need people with really good people skills that care about people, not necessarily psychologists with their training. It just takes caring, and listening."

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Eleven-year-old Alexandra Anderson has raised over \$1,000 for Inn From the Cold as a part of the Take Action fair at her school. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

Students Take Action for others

Charity. Fair encourages youth to donate and fundraise for homeless

JENNIFER
FRIESEN
calgary@metronews.ca

Armed with trays of brownies, cookies and caramel popcorn, Alexandra Anderson's already raked in \$1,000 to help the homeless population at Inn From the Cold.

The 11-year-old is one of approximately 50 students at Chinook Park School who took part in the Take Action fair on Thursday and Friday. Teacher Paul Ashton had his Grade 5

and 6 students choose an issue they care about and then raise money or awareness for the cause.

Anderson held a bake sale, raising \$1,094 to buy food, jackets, books and clothing for people at Inn From the Cold. She toured the facility and met families who stay there and said that it was "a real eye opener" for her.

"They were really happy (when I gave them the donation) and I really feel like I made a difference," she said. "I hope that people see what Inn From the Cold is about, and how lucky we are to have houses, and maybe they'll start donating too."

Students, parents and com-

munity members filed through the booths on Thursday, with students selling Pokemon cards, baked goods and even homemade comics.

Alexa Gabriel, 12, illustrated a comic book about her life with her little brother, Jared, to raise awareness about autism, which both she and Jared have been diagnosed with.

Ashton said he's seen a change in the students since the project began in October, and hopes they carry it through their lives. "I think they've learned that they can have an impact in their community, even at their age," he said. "I think they realize now that their efforts are not fruitless, that they have influence."

Data shows just a few bad apples: Taxi driver

Cabbies say city data showing a decline in bylaw infractions is proof they're serving customers well.

Earlier this month, tempers flared among some seasoned chauffeurs after Checker Yellow Cabs President Kurt Enders went public with claims that some of his own employees were ignoring customers on their dispatch screen up to 60 times each.

But data provided by the City of Calgary shows just a small uptick in summonses

issued to cab drivers in 2014 (135 to 124 in 2013), despite there being more taxis on the road and the number of warnings for minor bylaw infractions plummeted by 25 per cent from 3,073 to 2,307.

"Some of the drivers, if they're not following the bylaw, that's their mistake, but that doesn't seem like that many," said Gurdev Sekhon, a driver with Calgary United Cabs. He noted there were a total of 8.4 million cab trips in 2014, yet just 599 customer

complaints were logged — that figure was up, however, 42 per cent when compared with the 420 gripes logged in 2013.

City spokesperson Jondrea De Ruyter cautioned that the priorities of livery investigators vary from year to year. She said, for example, a great of focus was paid to several "more serious investigations and administrative hearings," including one involving illegal subleasing of cab plates.

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

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Crime. Alleged police imitators nabbed

Calgary police have laid charges against two people found with fake law-enforcement equipment and believed responsible for multiple robberies.

In December, \$8,000 worth of merchandise was stolen from the Toys "R" Us at CrossIron Mills Mall.

In late January, an ongoing investigation led police to a home in the 6200 block of 17th Avenue S.E. They arrested two people: 29-year-old Claudio Colin Quinteros and 32-year-old Cara Patricia Gavin.

But it was upon a search of the pair's vehicle that police discovered a fake police badge, blue and red dash lights and handcuffs.

Police are now asking the

Stolen

\$8,000

In December, \$8,000 worth of merchandise was stolen from the Toys "R" Us at CrossIron Mills Mall.

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Know anything about this incident?

- Anyone with information is asked to contact police or Crime Stoppers.

public to come forward if they were approached by a man posing as a plainclothes police officer driving a 2014 black Dodge Ram truck with blue and red dash lights.

The alleged fake cop is approximately 30 years old, Caucasian, five feet tall and weighs 240 pounds. He also sported a goatee.

Both Quinteros and Gavin were charged in connection with the toy store theft.

Quinteros, formerly known as Steve Todd, was also charged in connection with a shoplifting incident in Heritage Meadows that occurred in August as well as an outstanding warrant for threats to cause bodily harm in February. METRO



IN DEFENCE OF
Mike Morrison
calgary.metronews.ca

Earlier this week, I was reorganizing my storage room and started going through some old boxes. In one of those boxes were some of my old Metro Calgary columns.

Sifting through them, I realized I had just missed my five-year anniversary.

That's right: back in February 2010, I was Metro's newest columnist. It seems just like yesterday.

I spent the rest of that day poring over hundreds of my old columns, which got me thinking about Calgary as a whole.

How much have we really changed since 2010? Things were a bit different back when I started writing the column: it only cost \$2.75 to ride transit, Ed Stelmach was premier and Dave Bronconnier was about to announce that he wouldn't be running

for re-election, thus creating a new time continuum of Pre-Nenshi and Post-Nenshi. I think it's a time that many homebuilders and public-art detractors likely wish we could return to.

Other things were different, too. Even though I now use my bike every single day, one of my first columns was about how annoying cyclists were. (Please don't tell Sean Chu about that one.)

The columns often show an evolution. In one case, they go from "We need food trucks!" to "They're here!" and finally "Oh my God, too many food trucks."

But some things haven't changed at all. Another early column was titled Renters Aren't the Problem, They're Just Easier Targets. It was about the woes of trying to get secondary suites approved in the city. Five years later, the anti-renter discrimination remains the same, if not worse.

I've also spent a lot of time lamenting the premiers of Alberta, but I've learned one

But some things are different

When I started writing for Metro, I told myself I would never write about my sexuality or LGBTQ issues. I didn't think Alberta would accept me and I didn't really have any examples of Calgary media talking openly about their sexuality. But since then, I've seen a huge shift.

important lesson from being a Metro columnist: don't get too upset about who's premier, because we'll have a new one in about 16 months.

Other problems that we haven't been able to fix? Well, there are the bike lanes, of which I'm now a staunch supporter. And, of course, the tarpies. They're the group of so-called music fans whose stubbornness has essentially made it impossible for anyone to truly enjoy the Calgary Folk Music Festival.

But perhaps the biggest change over the past five years is bit more personal. When I started writing for Metro, I told myself I would

never write about my sexuality or LGBTQ issues. I didn't think Alberta would accept me and I didn't really have any examples of Calgary media talking openly about their sexuality.

But since then, I've seen a huge shift. Not only is it OK to talk about being gay in Calgary, you'll find supporters around every corner. And if I could have one wish on my fifth anniversary, it's that that shift continues its way up to Alberta's legislature.

I just hope it won't take another five years.

Mike Morrison tweets from @mikesbloggy.

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"Let's go play," said Tanya Lukenoff, artistic director at Theatre A Go-Go, as she runs toward a park in Sunnyside. She says the art of clowning has been lost in recent years, and she plans on bringing it back to Calgary with a new European clown workshop. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

Let the class clown help you play again

Workshop.

Tanya Lukenoff was afraid of the circus entertainers as a child, but now teaches people how to be one

Growing up, Tanya Lukenoff was afraid of clowns. It may not be an unusual statement in itself, but today Lukenoff happens to be a clown herself.

After studying in London under the French master clown Philippe Gaulier, she fell in love with the craft and hasn't looked back since.

Now, as the artistic director of Theatre A Go-Go, she details the history of clowning with rapt intensity — dating changes in style and naming the most revered locations.

She'll be launching a three-class European clown workshop in Calgary this

Theatre A Go-Go details

- When. April 26, May 3 and May 10 12:30-4:30 p.m.
- Where. Morpheus Rehearsal Centre, 3512-5 Avenue NW
- Cost. \$150 per person or \$120 per person if registered by March 29, or for members of Parkdale Community, Calgary Acts and Morpheus Theatre

spring, using improv, slapstick and physical comedy to keep the tradition going.

Because clowning began in Europe 5,000 years ago, she said that "it's a lot more revered and respected" as an art form in traditional European theatre.

Her theatrical studies have focused on European clowns, with their dramatic

expressions, masks and physical technique.

"Over the centuries we've had a profound shift, and the modern North American clown has become more about circuses and birthdays — meaning big makeup, loud costumes and sight gags to make people laugh," said Lukenoff.

She said some of the "art and the joy" of clowning has been lost, and she wants to see people learn to play again.

She hopes to develop and preserve the traditional style of clowning for the next generation before it's forgotten.

"I think a day without laughter is a wasted day," she said. "In today's world, we're so disconnected, so I really want to teach people to reconnect, reengage with themselves and find the joy in themselves so that they can spread that joy."

JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

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 ROGERS™

Is Alberta's budget crisis really 'unprecedented'?

Economy. Continual doom and gloom from premiers could steer businesses away, analyst warns



JEREMY NOLAIS
jeremy.nolais@metronews.ca

Friday marks exactly two years since ill-fated premier Alison Redford said spending in her government's budget would be so lean, it wouldn't even match the rate of growth due to the dreaded "bitumen bubble."

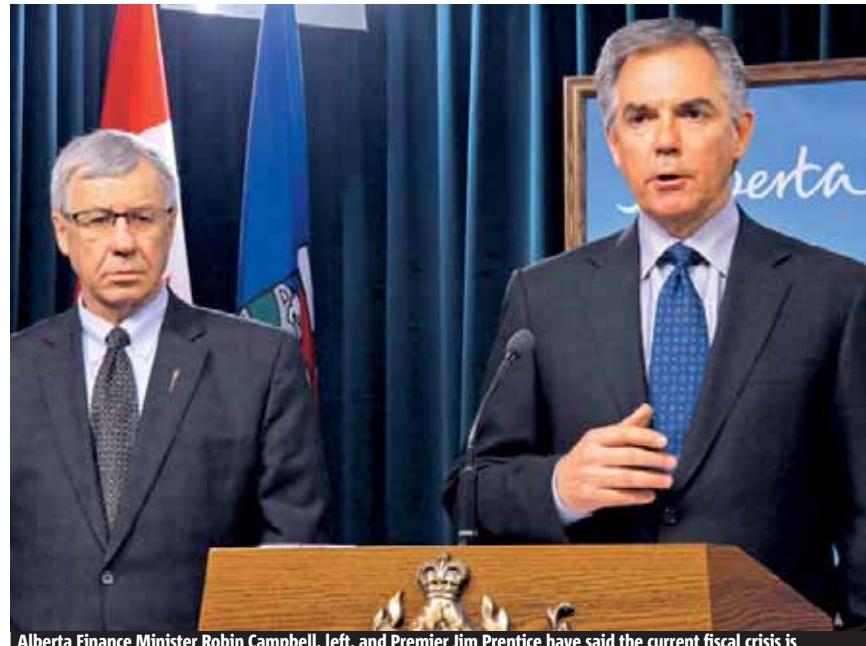
Lower-than-anticipated resource revenues forced the province to undertake a "significant measure of restraint" to close what Redford described at the time as a \$6-billion hole in the budget.

Four years prior, her predecessor Ed Stelmach warned at a meeting of premiers that Canada's revenue stream would no longer be bolstered by Alberta, which was being battered by plunging oil prices.

"Don't depend on it; it's not going to be there," he was quoted as saying in the National Post. "Be prepared to see much less revenue activity from the province of Alberta. What's difficult to get across to Canadians is that when the economy slows enough to a \$37 barrel of oil, everybody suffers."

That year, Stelmach's government was forecasting a \$7-billion shortfall due to resource revenues not meeting projections.

Fast forward to a December interview with current Premier Jim Prentice, in which he warned of the impending crisis



Alberta Finance Minister Robin Campbell, left, and Premier Jim Prentice have said the current fiscal crisis is unprecedented. Are you convinced? THE CANADIAN PRESS

of low oil prices that would soon come to a head in the 2015 provincial budget.

"In terms of the collapse of oil revenue for the government of Alberta, this has opened up a fiscal hole in Alberta's budget which is unprecedented," he told the Calgary Herald. "The decisions that we make have to fill a gap in Alberta's finances of \$6.2 billion in 2015/16."

Asked Thursday what makes Alberta's current financial struggles different from those experienced by past governments, Finance Minister Robin Campbell referenced new forces at play in the oil markets.

"I think things are different this time around in the sense

that we have an oversupply in the marketplace, so we have low prices because of that," he said. "The other challenge is that we've had tremendous growth in the province and we're going to continue to see tremendous growth. We're at over 4.2 million people now. And so, we have people coming here and we have to build infrastructure to look after those people's needs. So I think we are in a different situation than we were two years ago."

Alberta NDP Leader Rachel Notley said the government's "Chicken Little routine" raises suspicion.

"If we were really concerned about maintaining jobs, we would not be using

this as an opportunity to pull back in the public sector so dramatically," Notley said. "If anything, we're going to exacerbate the problem, not make it better."

David Taras, a political analyst with Mount Royal University, said he fears sharp, doom-and-gloom rhetoric will do damage to "Alberta's image."

"It is a dangerous game because the world is watching," he said. "If you're predicting disaster then you're scaring away investors and you're killing optimism and people are saying, 'Why should I take my brave new idea or my brave new business to Alberta when it's so bad?'"

WITH FILES FROM ROBSON FLETCHER

Quote Quiz: A 'new' fiscal reality?

The price of oil has generated a lot of budget talk among Alberta premiers and finance ministers over the years. Can you match the politician with the quote? Answers on page 21.



Ed Stelmach,
premier (2006 – 2011)



Jim Prentice, premier
(2014 – present)



Alison Redford, premier
(2011 – 2014)



Doug Horner, finance minister
(2012 – 2014)



Robin Campbell, finance minister
(2014 – present)

A "A return to extremely volatile energy prices has created conditions that we cannot ignore. Tough choices are going to have to be made and they will be made."

B "I made the comment to all of our cabinet colleagues that they're going to have to make some very tough choices. They're going to have to ensure that we are being very aggressive in reigning in and restraining our spending for us to meet our targets."

C "If we have to live with \$40 barrels of oil, we will."

D "Quite simply, we have to put Alberta's finances on more stable footing. A province as prosperous as Alberta should not be as susceptible as we are to swings in the price of oil and gas."

E "We're just in a different economic reality right now, and we're going to make sure we bring a budget forward that helps deal with that."



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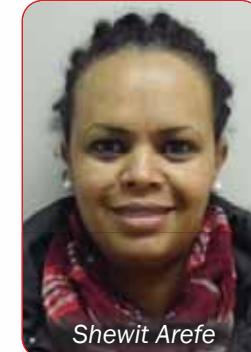
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Albertans reject blame for province's finances

Politics. Opposition and Twitterverse slam premier's 'look in a mirror' comments as oil prices plummet

Premier Jim Prentice has stirred up a whirlwind of anger by saying Albertans

need to "look in the mirror" if they want to know who is responsible for the province's fiscal mess.

The Twitter hashtag #PrenticeBlamesAlbertans went viral Thursday with a torrent of sarcasm, memes and outrage, and was a top trending in Canada for a time.

NDP Leader Rachel Notley demanded Prentice and

his four-decade-old Progressive Conservative government publicly apologize for "profoundly insulting" Albertans.

"These guys have been at the controls. These guys are the ones that have made the decisions. It's their decisions that have put us here," said Notley.

"How dare they blame the families who are strug-

gling to make ends meet under the circumstances that these folks have created. When you've been in government for 43 years, the least you can do is take responsibility for what you've done."

Wildrose Opposition Leader Heather Forsyth also demanded Prentice apologize.

"It is his government

who overspent by over \$40 billion for the past decade," said Forsyth.

"It is his government that has failed to ensure we could withstand \$50 oil. It is his government that has made Alberta's politicians and government the most expensive in Canada."

Prentice's office, in a statement, said: "The premier echoed something he

has been communicating to Albertans for a couple of months now: Alberta is going through tough financial times and there will be challenges ahead for all Albertans."

The controversy ignited after Prentice spoke about the fiscal crisis the province faces on a CBC radio call-in show Wednesday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Alberta to insulate provincial economy vs. oil price changes

The Alberta government says it will bring down its game-changing budget and 10-year financial plan on March 26.

Premier Jim Prentice has promised the budget will fundamentally restructure how the province spends and saves money to insulate it from future swings in oil prices.

Prentice has said plunging oil prices have left a projected \$7-billion hole in next year's budget.

He and Finance Minister Robin Campbell have said they are looking at hikes to income taxes and user fees to cover it off. It's also widely expected they'll examine closely the compensation of Alberta's thousands of pub-

lic sector workers, which has drawn the ire of provincial unions.

The province has ruled out increases to corporate taxes or oil royalties, saying that would be self-defeating in a struggling economy.

With the price of oil at or below \$50 a barrel, Finance Minister Robin Campbell said Alberta is facing a "fiscal crisis" as the oil royalties that make up so much of the province's revenue won't sustain previously planned expenditures.

"Oil's low right now," Campbell told reporters at a press conference in Calgary Thursday afternoon. "We've got to get our spending under control."

METRO/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"We're going to bring a budget forward that's going to get our spending under control, that's going to deal with the low oil prices, and we're going to leave Alberta in a better position."

Alberta Finance Minister Robin Campbell



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Bragg Creek residents urge premier to dam McLean

Flood. Mitigation plan protects the big city but not smaller towns upstream



ROBSON FLETCHER
robson.fletcher@metronews.ca

About 50 people rallied outside the McDougall Centre Thursday, calling on the Alberta government to build a dry dam at McLean Creek, to protect Calgary and their communities further upstream on the Elbow River.

Chanting, "save us all" and "use your brain — dam McLean," the crowd urged Premier Jim Prentice to reconsider the dry-dam option, rather than the reservoir in Springbank he announced last November would proceed as a flood-mitigation measure for the City of Calgary.

"Bragg Creek and Redwood are upstream of Springbank and will get no protection whatsoever," said rally organizer Dick Koetsier, adding that the dry dam would offer the same protection to the city as the reservoir.

The province initially announced three potential flood mitigation measures in November 2013, including the dry dam option, the reservoir option, and a third option of a



Rally organizer Dick Koetsier speaks to the crowd assembled outside the McDougall Centre in Calgary on Thursday afternoon. ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

tunnel beneath Calgary to divert water from the Glenmore Reservoir to the Bow River.

At the time, it was suggested some combination of two out of the three would be sufficient to protect Calgary from another high-water event on the scale of the June 2013 flood.

Revised proposals for the dam and reservoir were then released in April 2014, while both the city and province continued to study the tunnel option.

Then, in September 2014, newly installed premier Jim Prentice announced the prov-

ince would proceed with yet another revision of the reservoir plan, catching many off guard. Mayor Naheed Nenshi described it as a "significant departure" from previous proposals.

Margaret Barclay, a former Calgary resident who now

runs Crab Apple Cottage in Bragg Creek, wishes the province would put the dry-dam option back on the table in order to protect more than just the city.

"We all share a common thread — we all want flood mitigation," she said.

Huntington Hills NW

Fifty flee from townhouse fire

Fifty people were forced from their homes early Thursday after fire broke out in a northwest Calgary townhouse complex.

Fire crews responded to a 16-unit townhouse complex in Huntington Hills NW around 6:10 a.m. Thursday and upon arrival saw significant flames coming from the windows of one of the units.

Fire crews immediately attacked the blaze to prevent its spread to other units.

Two people left the home when the fire started and one individual was taken to hospital by EMS.

METRO

Robbery

Man sought in bank heist

Police are investigating a robbery of a southwest Scotiabank Thursday morning.

At approximately 9 a.m., a man entered the Scotiabank on the 1900 block of Southland Dr. S.W. and passed the teller a robbery note.

No one was injured, but the suspect left with an undisclosed amount of money.

Police are asking anyone with information to contact Crime Stoppers or the Calgary Police Service Robbery Unit at 403-428-8787. METRO

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Organizer Terry Lo credits the rapid growth of the competition with the fact that pretty much everybody loves burgers. ALBERTA BURGER FEST/FACEBOOK

Burger event beefs up

Charity. YYC Burger Week grows into Alberta Burger Fest, set to start in May



ROBSON FLETCHER
robson.fletcher@metronews.ca

From its humble beginnings two years ago, YYC Burger Week has exploded in popularity and burst the confines of Calgary city limits, returning in 2015 as a provincewide competition.

Now dubbed Alberta Burger Fest, the celebration of sandwich creations will be split into four "regions" — Calgary, Edmonton, southern Alberta and the mountain parks — each with its

own week (or longer) of local competition, said organizer Terry Lo.

The Calgary region competition is set to begin May 1, and Lo said a group of local food bloggers has already had to trim down the list of nearly 100 applications from city restaurants eager to participate.

"We had so many burgers we had to create an elimination round, because we only had 35 spots," he said.

The parks region will see restaurants from Banff, Canmore and Jasper participating, Lo added, while the southern Alberta region will include burger offerings from restaurateurs in Claresholm, Nanton, Black Diamond, Taber and Vulcan, and possibly Lethbridge and Fort Macleod.

Quoted

"It's grown so much simply because of the fact that burgers are fundamentally fun."

Terry Lo, organizer of YYC Burger Week and now Alberta Burger Fest

Calgary's past competitions saw all sorts of creative burger creations in a variety of price categories, and a portion of each burger sold going to a particular charity. More than \$30,000 was raised in the two years it went on.

Lo said this year's competition in Calgary will include a new, "extreme 50" category, with just five restaurants participating, each offering a \$50 burger and "championing" a different charity. The winning burger's charity gets half

the total proceeds, with the other half being distributed between the other four charities.

"It goes beyond extravagant," he said of the \$50 burgers. "Two of the burgers that have been proposed actually have whole soft-shell crabs cooked into them."

On the web

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Price of high-end homes to dip in spring: Realtor

Sotheby's International Realty Canada says a contraction in Alberta's economy will cause sales of high-end homes in Calgary to slip this spring, creating opportunities for deal-hungry buyers.

Meanwhile, sales of homes worth \$1 million or more in Toronto and Vancouver are expected to accelerate heading into the key spring selling season.

The realtor says the disparity stems from the fact that lower oil prices will have vary-

ing impacts on different provinces, with Ontario and British Columbia set to benefit and Alberta expected to suffer.

Sotheby's president and CEO Ross McCredie says that after five years of growth, sales in Calgary's high-end real estate market are already beginning to slow.

The average price of a high-end home in Calgary has come down about four per cent from 2014 highs.

McCredie says buyers in the

higher-end real estate market tend to react to economic changes more quickly than regular buyers.

"They tend to be more tuned in to the news, they tend to be looking at the stock markets, and when their confidence goes, then the rest of the market starts to follow," McCredie said.

"I think the higher-end market starts to be a lead indicator as to what's going to happen, potentially, in the general

marketplace."

McCredie says vacancy rates in the city are at historic lows and unemployment in Alberta also remains low, at least for now. That should help to keep the high-end real estate market afloat in the short term.

"The public perception is that everybody in Calgary turned the lights off and left, but that's not the case," McCredie said. "It's not as dire as people are making it out to be."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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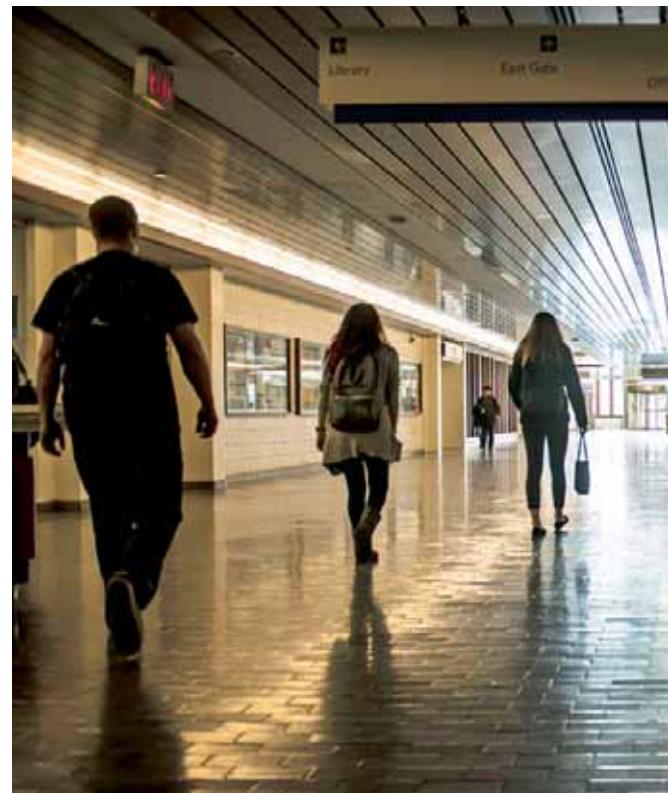
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Students venture through the "main street" area at Mount Royal University. It has case with other post-secondary schools in Calgary. JENNIFER FRIESEN/METRO

Students need get into some

 **JEREMY
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jeremy.nolais@metronews.ca

Education. With the odds stacked against them, students angling for spots in post-secondary schools are becoming disheartened

Mike Donaven had little trouble enrolling in Mount Royal University's criminal justice program in 2010.

Now, he's on the verge of graduating but feels for the increasing number of incoming students vying for a spot in the popular program. In 2014, the minimum entrance grade for criminal justice was 82 per cent, but that cut-off is actually well beneath those seen in other programs, like nursing (91.5 per cent), midwifery (91.5 per cent) and athletic therapy (90 per cent).

"You're brought up with this idea as a child that when you get older you go to school and then you get

a job," Donaven said. "That's becoming less feasible and as more money is cut it's getting hard to go that route."

University President David Docherty said Mount Royal is seeing "particular peaks" in programs with direct access to promising professional degrees upon graduation. He said there are capital plans afoot to add thousands of student spaces on campus, namely renovating the upper-floor conservatory and current library when much larger replacement facilities open on campus in the coming years.

Mount Royal does offer a "university entrance option" for students who narrowly miss out on a spot in their program of choice. Students in the program are provided guidance by a counsellor on courses they can take to help progress towards their degree if and when they officially enrol.

Of those utilizing the option, three quarters successfully transfer into their program within two years, Docherty said. He said the offering helps to boost access for students and bring



become far tougher to gain entrance into programs at the popular institution, as is the

top marks to MRU courses

in additional dollars to the cash-strapped university.

"There's empty spaces in classes that are going on anyway," he said. "Once that class begins, it's a fixed cost so if we can get five more students in there . . . we believe it will help retention, it's to the benefit of students because they can leave here with a degree and there's an economic benefit to the institution because we're making maximum use of our classes."

Erik Queenan with the campus students' association said he believes administrators are doing what they can to accommodate as many learners as possible, but said the responsibility still falls largely on the province to boost funding.

"I hate the idea that qualified people in this city can't access post-secondary," Queenan said. "That we have the space for people, we just don't have the funding for people. It's really disheartening."

In light of the sharp reduction in prices for Alberta oil, both Mount Royal and the University of Calgary

Mount Royal

Here are some of the minimum grade requirements for a few of the school's programs.

- Bachelor of Nursing. 91.5 per cent
- Bachelor of Midwifery. 91.5 per cent
- Bachelor of Health and Physical Education. 90 per cent
- Bachelor of Education - Elementary. 86 per cent
- Bachelor of Science. 85 per cent

have begun preparing budget scenarios anticipating up to a five per cent reduction in Campus Alberta grants this year. If the cuts do run that deep, they would come on top of a nine per cent turnaround in 2013 funds that forced Mount Royal to eliminate eight programs, trim staff positions and tack on a student services fee.

Saskatoon

Four face theft, weapons charges after police chase

Two men and two women from Alberta face theft and weapons charges following a Saskatoon police chase.

Police tried to stop a speeding truck at Avenue F and 30th Street in Saskatoon early Thursday morning, but the truck took off.

A few hours later, Warman RCMP notified Saskatoon police they had located the vehicle abandoned near Cathedral Bluffs.

Two men, ages 35 and 39, and two women, ages 24 and 37, are facing charges of possession of stolen property and possession of a weapon dangerous to the public.

The 37-year-old woman is also facing charges for possessing methamphetamine and marijuana.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

'Quote Quiz'

Answering the questions of the new fiscal realities

Here are the answers to our Quote Quiz from page 16.

Quote A: Jim Prentice said this in a speech to the Edmonton Chamber of Commerce in December 2014.

Quote B: Doug Horner said

this in December 2012 to the Canadian Press.

Quote C: Ed Stelmach was quoted as saying this in a January 2009 column in the National Post.

Quote D: Alison Redford said this in a January 2013 interview with CTV News.

Quote E: Robin Campbell said this Thursday in response to a question from Metro. METRO

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No more 1,000-day access request delays, judge rules

Information. Federal Court rules long delays for responding to requests under Access to Information Act must be justified

Quoted

"At least now what we have is a clear assertion of jurisdiction of the Federal Court, which means that it gives us more ammunition when we negotiate stricter timelines with institutions."

Information commissioner Suzanne Legault

— to meet the request.

The information commissioner took the department to court for a review of the time extension. Often an institution must consult another department or agency to see what documents can be released, making it hard to supply information within a month.

Such battles over delays between commissioners and departments have gone on since the access act was passed 30 years ago. The Federal Court eventually ruled that time extensions, which are permitted under the law, are not subject to judicial review, but the appeal court disagreed.

Chief Justice Marc Noel said timely access is a central part of the right of access and that viewing all time extensions as permissible is tantamount to not having any limits at all.

Under the act, institutions must produce records within 30 days or else inform the requester of a reasonable extension. Often an institution must consult another department or agency to see what documents can be released, making it hard to supply information within a month.

National Defence had come to its estimate of how long it would take to produce the records by considering the typical number of days it took for the Department of Foreign Affairs to get back to it on an access consultation (110) and multiplying that by eight. The number of records involved was roughly eight times more than the usual batch.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



The Power to Surprise



Canada in Iraq 'for the longer term': Nicholson

Military. Decision on whether to extend combat mission against ISIL will be made in the next few weeks, foreign affairs minister says

The Harper government is laying the groundwork for what has all the appearances of an extension of Canada's combat mission against the militants of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL).

At the end of this week's whirlwind trip to Iraq and other allied countries, Foreign Affairs Minister Rob Nicholson dropped strong hints that an extension is in the offing when the current Canadian Forces combat mission expires on April 7. A decision will be made in the next two weeks by Prime Minister Stephen Harper and his cabinet, Nicholson said Thursday, peppering his comments with rhetoric about how Canada doesn't stand "on the

Involvement

Canada has also contributed half a dozen CF-18 fighter jets to the international coalition that is trying to diminish ISIL's strength.

- The special-forces troops have been involved in firefights with militants, but Nicholson said he wasn't aware of any new incidents.

"sidelines" and leave the heavy lifting to others.

"We're in this for the longer term to make sure that we do what we can to help," he said in a conference call from Amman in neighbouring Jordan.

A senior defence official said Thursday that the next contingent of troops and aircrew are training for deployment to Iraq, if the government does decide to extend the mission.

"The military planners are ready to answer the government's call in whatever shape

that might take," said navy Capt. Paul Forget. "That planning has been in the works for some time."

Forget was asked whether the military would be able to handle an expansion of the air campaign to Syria, or even eastern Libya, where ISIL has taken hold. Syria "would not be much of a stretch," he said, while underlining the government has not authorized such a move, but Libya would require the establishment of an entirely separate task force.

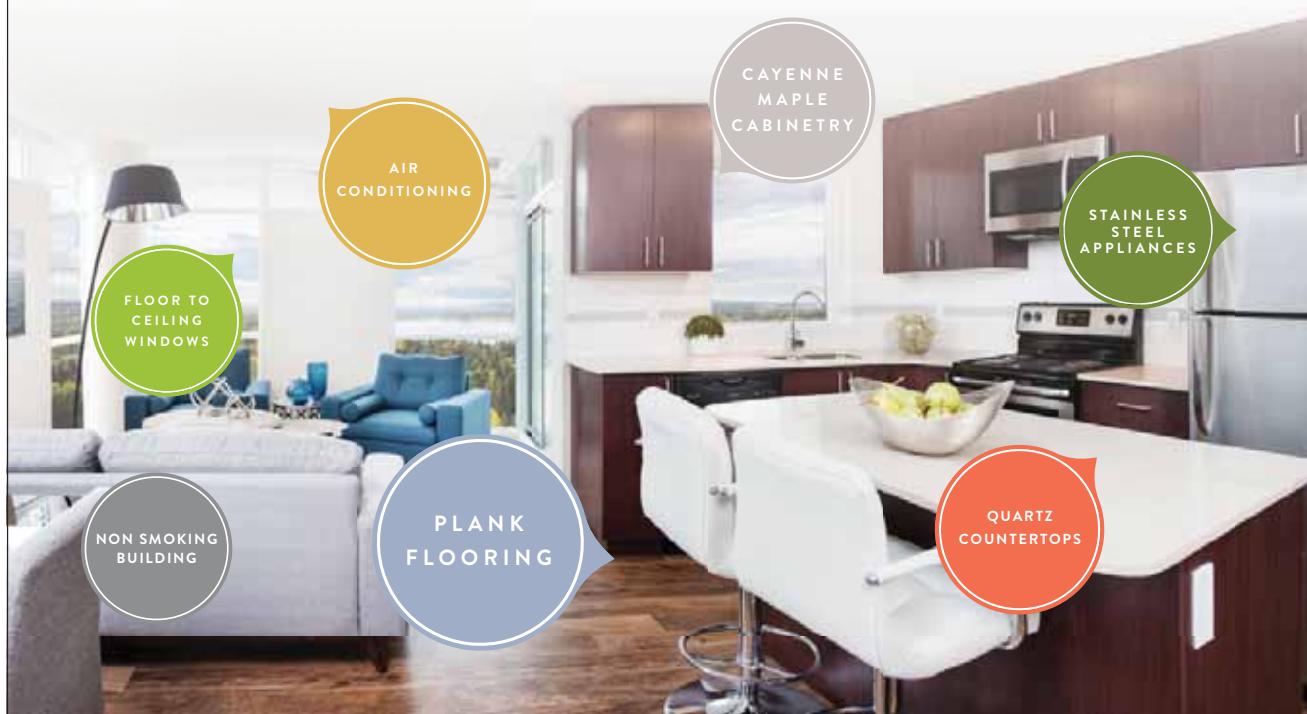
Nicholson travelled to Baghdad to meet the country's leadership and moved on to northern Iraq's capital of Irbil for meetings with Kurdish leaders. He said the trip would help the government assess whether to extend its six-month military commitment to the coalition fighting ISIL militants.

Progress is being made, but more needs to be done, said Nicholson, who visited some of the 69 Canadian special-forces commandos who are advising Kurdish Peshmerga fighters.

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Montreal

Mail carriers on edge after attacks

Some Montreal letter carriers are on edge after several armed attacks involving two men who use knives and scissors to steal keys to mail boxes.

Union spokesman Alain Duguay said there have been a dozen such incidents in northeastern Montreal since the beginning of the year. One man usually distracts the carrier while the other approaches from behind and demands the keys, said Duguay, the local president of the Canadian Union of Postal Workers.

The assailants then use the keys to steal credit cards, passports and other important documents.

Some of the keys also provide access to apartment buildings.

Duguay said two of the attacks took place at community mail boxes, with the most recent incident occurring at the beginning of this week.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Seal takes a stroll in Halifax

Police officers pose with a seal found walking the streets of downtown Halifax early Thursday morning. The youngster, who had been in search of food, was directed home by police, right into the harbour. Around 12:30 a.m., two officers were patrolling an area downtown when a woman flagged them down to help a harbour seal who was hissing under her car. The animal then waddled down the street. Using "gentle persuasion," police wrapped the seal in a blanket and took it back to the harbour, according to a release. COURTESY HALIFAX REGIONAL POLICE

No in vitro option till sexual activity sworn: Quebec

Quebec women who want government-financed in vitro fertilization will have to sign a statement saying they have been sexually active for a long period.

Health Minister Gaétan Barrette says his proposed legislation would oblige women to make the declaration in a doctor's office.

The legislation would not have the force of law.

The objective is to allow nature to take its course and to ensure that in vitro treatment is not performed unnecessarily.

In vitro treatments are the complex and costly and often result in multiple births.

Barrette says it's been shown that 95 per cent of couples considered infertile have a child within three years if they keep trying to conceive.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Age ranges

Health Minister has proposed guidelines based on various age categories:

- Women aged 18 to 30 would have to have had frequent sexual relations during two to three years in order to be eligible for in vitro.
- The period for those between 31 and 35 would be two years, while it would be between one year and 18 months for those aged 36 to 40.
- For women aged 41 and 42, the limit for the procedure, it would be up to the doctor to determine the required period.

Winnipeg woman pulled over for rolling up the rim



Rolling up the rim while driving won't get you a ticket. METRO WINNIPEG

Driving. Police assumed she was texting, let her go without a ticket thanks to Tim Hortons coffee

A Winnipeg woman says she was pulled over for texting and driving, but instead of a cell phone in her hand, it was actually a Tim Horton's Roll Up the Rim to Win cup.

The woman, who identified herself as Lily, told local radio station Virgin 103

Funny story

"He was pretty young so I guess he wasn't too upset that I wasted his time..."

Lily, a caller to Virgin 103 says she nearly got a ticket for being mistaken for texting while driving.

she was driving in Winnipeg Wednesday when she pulled up to a red light.

Using her thumbs, she started rolling up the rim on her coffee cup while she was waiting, she said.

Next thing she knew, she was pulled over.

Lily said the police officer came up to her window to give her a ticket until he saw what was in her hands.

"Well, he saw that it wasn't a phone," she said, "and then he's like, so, let's see if you won."

"He stuck around to see if I won. And I didn't," she laughed.

"He kinda laughed about it," she added. "He was pretty young so I guess he wasn't too upset that I wasted his time, but it was, yeah, pretty funny."

Lily drove away without being ticketed, and said if she had been texting and driving, she would have "for sure" deserved a fine. METRO WINNIPEG

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Wilma and Cliff Derksen speak to reporters Thursday in their Winnipeg home after a Supreme Court of Canada ruling that ordered a new trial for the man convicted of killing their daughter in 1984. STEVE LAMBERT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Murdered girl's mom 'flummoxed' by court ruling

Winnipeg. New trial ordered for 50-year-old man convicted of killing Candace Derksen in 1984

The mother of a Manitoba girl killed 30 years ago expressed surprise Thursday following a Supreme Court decision that ordered a new trial for the man she firmly believes killed her daughter.

"We are totally flummoxed, totally in shock," Wilma Derksen said as she sat in her living room beside her husband, Cliff.

Candace Derksen was 13 when she disappeared on her way home from school in Winnipeg in 1984. Her body was found six weeks later in a storage shed near her house. She had been tied up and left to freeze to death.

Elections

Commissioner fought move of operations

Canada's chief elections investigator pushed hard against moving his operations out of the same building as Elections Canada, fearing it would interfere with his ability to investigate electoral wrongdoing and could taint evidence needed to prosecute offenders.

Yves Cote, the commissioner of elections, had already lost the battle last spring over Conservative

Mark Grant was convicted of second-degree murder in 2011, but the Manitoba Court of Appeal overturned the conviction in 2013 and ordered a new trial.

Provincial prosecutors appealed to the Supreme Court, which upheld the Appeal Court ruling in a 7-0 decision.

Wilma Derksen said she still believes Grant abducted and killed Candace.

"We believe that the (appeal) process is good and it's needed, and if there is doubt out there, then let's talk about it or drop it," she said. "I have to admit, though, that I'm convinced (of Grant's guilt) ... I can't not be convinced."

Grant, now in his 50s, has a long criminal history, and has spent nearly half his life behind bars for 23 offences. He has repeatedly denied killing Derksen.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

legislation that severed his operations from Elections Canada — a move the government sold as providing him greater independence and freedom from bias.

Documents obtained under the Access to Information Act show Cote was fighting a losing battle over real estate as well.

Cote feared a move to a separate building — rather than to an empty floor in the same government building that housed Elections Canada — would have a negative impact on "operational readiness, efficiency, cost, timing and security."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canadian pastor held in North Korea

A Toronto pastor who lost contact with his family over a month ago while on a humanitarian mission in North Korea has been detained in that country, a spokeswoman for the man's family said Thursday.

Lisa Pak said Canadian authorities notified Rev. Hyeon Soo Lim's family that North Korea's government had confirmed his detention. She said the family was told Lim is facing charges but could not say what they are.

Lim left Canada on Jan. 27 with a few days stopover in South Korea before travelling on to China and crossing into North Korea on Jan. 31, Pak said, adding the family has not heard from him since then.

Lim, 60, has travelled to North Korea more than 100 times on humanitarian missions, Pak said, with much of his work concentrated in the impoverished country's north-eastern region of Rason.

One of the projects Lim

spearheaded "aims to help the people there live sustainably," she said, adding, "They can grow their own food now, so they don't always have to receive aid."

The pastor also helped out schools, an orphanage and a nursing home, Pak said, adding his trip was not meant to be political.

Lim's wife and 32-year-old son are "doing as best as they can," Pak said.

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Mississauga, Ont., pastor Reverend Hyeon Soo Lim has been detained in North Korea. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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GENESIS

Fighting words: Language and sexism enter into a new phase

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Equality. Feminists have long debated the issue of sexist language. But with new coinage of mansplaining and manspreading, feminists are fighting back, using words to call out men's bad behaviour.

 **THANDI FLETCHER**
Metro in Vancouver

Annette Henry is all too familiar with "mansplaining."

A language and literacy education professor at the University of British Columbia, Henry has a PhD and was previously head of her department.

Still, she often experiences situations where men patronizingly explain things to her, under the supposed assumption that she couldn't possibly understand because she's a woman.

"Just the other day a co-worker was explaining teaching to me," Henry said, adding with a laugh: "I mean, I've been teaching for 30 years. It's amazing to me that somebody would think I need a primer on teaching."

The issue of sexist language has been hotly debated within feminist circles since the 1960s, but today women are fighting back in a new way, inventing catchy words to call out sexist behaviour that many may not even be aware of.

"Mansplaining," a portmanteau that combines the words man and explaining, can be traced back to a 2008 article in which writer Rebecca Solnit detailed an experience at a party in which a man patronizingly attempted to tell her about a new book that, unbeknownst to him, she actually had written.

Although Solnit never used the term in her piece, it soon emerged within the feminist lexicon. A plethora of other portmanteaus soon followed, from manspreading to manslamming, maninterrupting and bropropriating.

The terms highlight a real phenomenon women face on a daily basis, but that many people remain oblivious to, said Henry.

Henry said she doesn't believe men are being intentionally "malicious or mean" when



Putting a name to men's bad behaviour can be empowering for women, says a language and literacy education professor. ISTOCK

Glossary

- **Mansplaining:** A term to describe when a man patronizingly explains something to a woman, under the supposed assumption that she couldn't possibly understand because she's a woman.
- **Manspreading:** The male habit of sitting with legs apart and taking up too much space on a bus or subway.
- **Manslamming:** When a man is unwilling to make way for a woman coming in the opposite direction on a sidewalk, and pummels into her.
- **Maninterrupting:** When a man interrupts a woman while she's trying to speak.
- **Bropropriating:** When a man takes credit for a woman's idea at a meeting.

they mansplain or manterrupt a woman.

"I think often men don't realize," she said. "Sometimes, once they're told, they do, but not always. It's hard to undo a lifetime of habits and socialization."

But Janni Aragon, a political science professor at the Univer-

to label both men and women. For example, when women display leadership qualities they are often labelled "bossy," Aragon said, while a man in the same position will be praised for being "hands-on."

So what does mansplaining mean for the future of feminism?

With the coinage emerging at a time when dozens of women are also breaking their silence, coming forward with claims of sexual assault by high-profile men such as Bill Cosby and Jian Ghomeshi, Henry said it could be a sign we are entering a new phase of the feminist movement.

Putting a name to bad behaviour can be empowering for women, but Henry said there's still a lot of work to do to bring about social change.

"I think it's too early to tell (if it will make a difference) because they're relatively new terms," she said.

The experts' take

YES

"I just love these terms," said University of British Columbia language and literacy education professor Annette Henry. "The fact that women are naming these things and, of course, we're having a good laugh over it, too — I think it's a powerful thing."

Putting a name to behaviours such as mansplaining emboldens women, said Henry.

"Men walk through the world in ways that are so different from women, and we have to work harder just to get some kind of recognition."

Being able to label sexist behaviour opens up debate about how to bring about change, she said.

"The consciousness has evolved," she said. "Women are naming things that have always been a part of our experience."

Although naming these behaviours may be a step in the right direction, Henry said women still face many inequality in many ways that won't be solved overnight.



ANNETTE HENRY
Language and literacy education professor at the University of B.C.

IS THIS A GOOD THING?

NO

"It has a time and a place," said Janni Aragon, a University of Victoria political science professor. "We often need to think about the appropriateness of language."

While she would use the terms in casual conversation with friends, Aragon said they aren't appropriate in all situations — especially the workplace.

"What happens is this becomes part of our daily language use and we forget that we need to have a modicum of maturity and professionalism in the workplace," she said.

Instead of automatically labelling men as "mansplainers" or "manslammers," she suggests using the terms as an opportunity to talk about language and the ways we interact with others.

"When someone 'mansplains' or speaks to her in a patronizing manner, Aragon said, she will instead comment on it or repeat it back to them."

"What I've found is that usually the person will realize that they've just done something and clarify," she said. "Or they'll apologize."

JANNI ARAGON
University of Victoria political science professor



Racism, money drove Ferguson police: Feds

Investigation. City relied on fines from petty offences to raise revenue, demonstrated mass discrimination

While the federal government declined to prosecute Darren Wilson in the fatal shooting of Michael Brown, it raised grave concerns about the operation of Ferguson's police department and municipal court.

Though about two-thirds of the city's 21,000 residents are black, only four of 54 commissioned officers are African-American.

That lack of diversity undermines community trust, the Justice Department's report said. It also found Ferguson relies heavily on fines for petty offences, such as jaywalking, to raise revenue.

Holder said the city collected more than \$1.3 million in fines and court fees in 2010, but \$3 million more is

projected for the current fiscal year.

He cited a 2007 case where a woman received two parking tickets costing \$152. Because of court fees and other expenses, she has paid \$550 so far, spent six days in jail and still owes \$541.

Federal investigators found many other examples of discrimination. A lawful protest was broken up with a police warning of "Everybody here's going to jail," and a black man sitting in a car with tinted windows was accused without cause of being a pedophile by an officer who pointed a gun at his head.

Between 2012 and 2014, black drivers were more than twice as likely as others to be searched during routine traffic stops but 26 per cent less likely to be carrying contraband.

Federal officials described Ferguson leaders as co-operative and open to change and said there were already signs of improvement. The city, for example, no longer issues

Details *Brown's parents file lawsuit*

Lawyers for the parents of Michael Brown have announced plans to file a civil lawsuit in their son's death. Attorney Daryl Parks said the City of Ferguson and former officer Darren Wilson will be named in the suit. The comments came at a news conference Thursday in response to the findings from the U.S. Justice Department investigation that cleared Wilson in Brown's death.

failure-to-appear warrants, has eliminated a fee for towing cars and rescinded warrants for nearly 600 defendants.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



No more elephants on parade

Elephants perform at the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus at the Amalie Arena in Tampa, Fla., in January. The circus will phase out the show's iconic elephants by 2018, announcing Thursday that growing public concern about how the animals are treated led to the decision. GARY BOGDON/FELD ENTERTAINMENT INC./THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Los Angeles

Second hospital reports patients infected with CRE

A second Los Angeles hospital is reporting that patients have been infected with an antibiotic-resistant "superbug" linked to a type of widely used medical scope.

The latest cases came at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, where four patients were infected with the superbug known as CRE, the hospital said Wednesday. Two weeks ago a similar outbreak was reported at Ronald Regan UCLA Medical Center, where seven patients, two of whom later died, were sickened with the bacteria. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

East Ukraine

Death toll reaches 33 in mining blast

Officials in separatist rebel-held Donetsk city in east Ukraine say the death toll from an accidental explosion at a coal mine has risen to 33. The blast occurred before dawn Wednesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Drug smuggling

Indonesia rejects Australian offer of prisoner swap

Indonesian officials said Thursday they will reject an Australian offer to swap prisoners as part of a last-ditch attempt to save the lives of two Australian drug smugglers expected to face a

firing squad within days. Minister of Justice and Human Rights Yasonna Laoly said prisoner swaps might be possible for other crimes in the future, but not for people sentenced to death under Indonesia's tough anti-drug laws.

"When it comes to this crime, we will say no," he told reporters after meeting with President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Britain

Prime minister accused of 'running scared'

Britain is counting down to its general election in just over two months — and the name-calling has begun in earnest.

Prime Minister David Cameron refused Thursday

to take part in a head-to-head TV debate with opposition leader Ed Miliband, giving ammunition to rival parties who all jumped in to accuse Cameron of cowardice and "running scared."

"He is cowering from the public," said Miliband, who leads the Labour Party. "The British people deserve this debate. I'll debate him any time, any place, anywhere." **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Ebola

Liberia releases last patient

Liberia released its last Ebola patient, a 58-year old teacher, from a treatment centre on Thursday, beginning its countdown to being declared Ebola free.

"I am one of the happiest human beings today" **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

on earth because it was not easy going through this situation and coming out alive," Beatrice Yaredolo told The Associated Press after her release. As she walked out of the clinic, wearing a bright yellow shirt, hospital cap and a beaming smile, Yaredolo kept thanking God and the health workers at the centre.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Harrison Ford stable after crash landing

Los Angeles. Nobody was hurt on golf course where plane landed

Harrison Ford crash-landed his vintage plane Thursday after losing engine power, suffering serious but not life-threatening injuries as he used his extensive piloting experience to skillfully bring down the plane on a golf course and avoid nearby homes.

It was the latest and most serious in a series of crashes and close calls for the 72-year-old action-adventure A-lister, who like his Star Wars alter-ego Han Solo has a taste for aerial thrills. He was helped by golfers who saw the plane come down about a quarter-mile short of the runway at Santa Monica Municipal Airport and taken to a hospital conscious and breathing.

Ford's publicist Ina Treciokas said in a statement that Ford had no other choice but to make an emergency landing. She said his injuries "are not life-threatening, and he is expected to make a full recovery."

Ford was about a half-

mile west of the airport and flying at 3,000 feet when he told air traffic controllers that his engine failed, interim Santa Monica City Manager Elaine Polacheck said in an email to city officials.

Ford's plane "apparently hit a tree on the way down," and in addition to a cut forehead, Ford may have broken his leg, the email said.

The plane, a yellow 1942 Ryan Aeronautical ST3KR with stars on its wings, was upright and mostly intact after the crash. No one on the ground was hurt.

"I would say that this is an absolutely beautifully executed — what we would call a forced or emergency landing — by an unbelievably well-trained pilot," said Christian Fry of the Santa Monica Airport Association. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Engine failure

Harrison Ford reported engine failure shortly after takeoff and told air-traffic controllers he was returning to the airport before crash-landing his vintage plane on a nearby golf course in Los Angeles.



Harrison Ford's small plane lies where it crash-landed on Penmar Golf Course in the Venice area of Los Angeles on Thursday. The course is near the Santa Monica, Calif., Municipal Airport, just west of a runway. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



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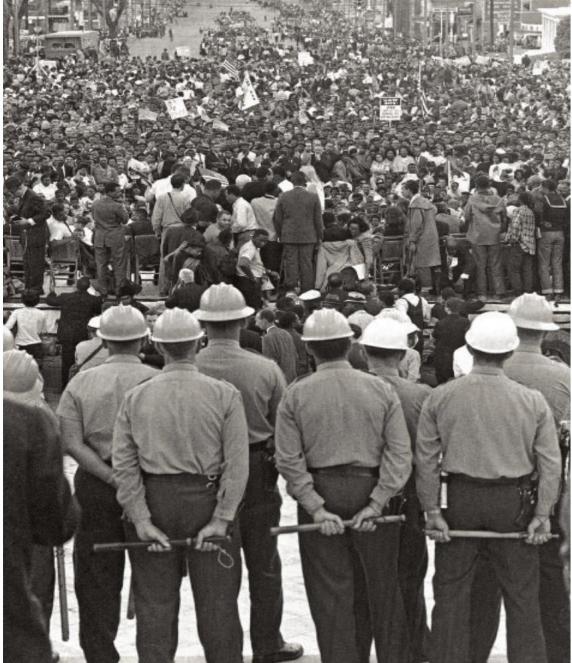
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WORLD

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In this March 25, 1965 photo, state troopers block the steps of the Alabama state capitol in Montgomery from civil-rights marchers at the end of their five-day march from Selma, Ala. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Bloody Sunday, 50 years later

Voters' rights.
Violently repressed
march led to passing
of Voting Rights Act

Fifty years ago, U.S. President Lyndon B. Johnson asked a joint session of Congress to respond to the brutal beatings of protesters in Selma, Ala., by passing a federal Voting Rights Act that would "open the city of hope to all people of all races."

During his address to Congress following those broadcasts, Johnson spoke passionately about poverty and equal rights, a sensitivity influenced, he said, by discrimination against Mexican-Americans that he witnessed as a young teacher at a segregated school in Cotulla, Texas, in the 1920s.

On Jan. 15, 1965 — Martin Luther King Jr.'s 36th birthday — Johnson returned a phone call from King and told him a voting-rights bill would be better if "we just extend it (to everyone), whether it's a Negro, whether it's a Mexican or who it is."

Johnson went on to say that such legislation could be the "greatest achievement of his administration," to which King replied, "That's right. That's right."

horses — at the hands of police during a march from Selma to the state capitol, Montgomery, triggered mass outrage and more demonstrations around the country. The incident of March 7, 1965 became known as "Bloody Sunday" and galvanized U.S. leaders, ultimately yielding passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

During his address to Congress following those broadcasts, Johnson spoke passionately about poverty and equal rights, a sensitivity influenced, he said, by discrimination against Mexican-Americans that he witnessed as a young teacher at a segregated school in Cotulla, Texas, in the 1920s.

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Johnson went on to say that such legislation could be the "greatest achievement of his administration," to which King replied, "That's right. That's right."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

North Carolina

Gold-truck heist may be inside job

Details emerging from the theft of nearly \$5 million in gold bars on an interstate highway indicate the heist was carefully planned and raise questions about who was involved other than the three armed robbers.

The robbers pulled up almost immediately after the drivers made an

unscheduled stop on a dark stretch of highway in North Carolina to allow a sick guard to vomit because of gasoline fumes, according to a warrant.

The robbers yelled "Policia!" and the crew exited the truck at gunpoint, leaving their firearms behind in violation of their employer's security rules.

A mechanic found no problems with the truck.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Indiana

Long-dead babies found in funeral home ceiling

The remains of two mummified or skeletonized babies have been found tucked inside small boxes above ceiling tiles in a northwestern Indiana funeral home, investigators said.

Gary police and the

Lake County coroner on Wednesday removed the bodies of a stillborn infant and a newborn from Smith, Bizzell and Warner Funeral Home. The body of a boy who was about 24 weeks gestational age had a tag indicating the baby was delivered March 3, 1996. The other baby was younger and had no documentation, Lake County Coroner Merrilee Frey said.

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Women's rights. India upset over airing of documentary

India's home minister said Thursday that the government would act against the British Broadcasting Corporation after it ignored a court order and aired a documentary about a fatal gang rape in which one of the attackers blames the victim.

India's Daughter by British filmmaker Leslee Udwin was to have been shown on Sunday, International Women's Day, in India as well as in Britain, Denmark, Sweden and several other countries. Police and the government got a court order that halted the screening, but the BBC aired the documentary in the United Kingdom late Wednesday.

Indian viewers cannot see it on the BBC's website, but it could be seen on YouTube.

The broadcaster said in a statement that it had moved the screening time forward "given the intense level of interest" and to "enable viewers to see this incredibly powerful

documentary at the earliest opportunity."

Home Minister Rajnath Singh did not specify what steps the Indian government would take, telling reporters only that "all options are open."

In the film, Mukesh Singh, who was among four men convicted and sentenced to death for the 2012 rape and murder, said "a girl is far more responsible for rape than a boy."

"A decent girl won't roam around at 9 o'clock at night.... Housework and housekeeping is for girls, not roaming in discos and bars at night doing wrong things, wearing wrong clothes."

The film has ignited a debate in India where many worry that it paints India in a poor light.

In a statement Wednesday, Delhi Police said it feared that the film's screening had "created a situation of tension and fear amongst women in the society." **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



British filmmaker Leslee Udwin addresses a news conference in New Delhi, Tuesday on her documentary film "India's Daughter," about a 2012 gang rape on a moving bus. ALTAF QADRI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Japanese vet identifies long-lost battleship

History. The battleship Musashi sank in one of the largest naval battles of the war

A former crew member on a Japanese battleship that sank during World War II said Thursday he recognized photos of wreckage discovered this week off the Philippines by a team led by Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen.

Shizuhiko Haraguchi served as a gunnery officer on the Musashi, one of the largest battleships in history, when it was being fitted in Japan before it departed for the Pacific in 1943.

"I recognized that main turret, which I was assigned to," Haraguchi, 93, said in a telephone interview from his home in Nagasaki in southern Japan where the ship was built, fitted and tested. "I felt very nostalgic when I saw that."

The Musashi had nine 46-centimetre guns, which were each 20 metres long, he said.

Haraguchi said other details released by Allen convinced him that the wreckage was that of the Musashi. He said a round base shown in a photo of the bow was where a chrysanthemum decoration used to be, an Imperial seal



Filipino World War II historian Professor Rico Jose shows pictures before the Japanese World War II battleship Musashi sank as he talks to reporters at his office in suburban Quezon city, north of Manila, Philippines, on Thursday.

AARON Favila/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

that only battleships were allowed to carry.

Allen said his team found the battleship at a depth of one kilometre in the Sibuyan Sea using an autonomous underwater vehicle following more than eight years of study.

Historians and military experts praised the apparent discovery of the legendary battleship after 70 years, saying it would help promote interest in World War II studies. A group supporting navy veter-

ans said survivors would want to hold a memorial service at the site.

Haraguchi left the ship just before its departure because he was transferred to an aviation unit in eastern Japan.

The apparent discovery on Sunday of the battleship comes as the world marks the 70th anniversary of the war's end.

The Musashi, commissioned in 1942, sank in October 1944 in the Sibuyan Sea

during the Battle of Leyte Gulf, losing about half of its 2,400 crew members. Only a few hundred eventually returned home alive. The ship was repeatedly hit by torpedoes and bombs dropped by planes from Allied aircraft carriers.

The naval battle, considered the largest of World War II, crippled the Imperial fleet, cut off Japanese oil supplies and allowed the U.S. invasion of the Japanese-held Philippines. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Terrorism

Six years jail for would-be jihadist

A teacher whose family helped thwart his plans to travel to Syria to fight alongside the Islamic State group was sentenced to six years in prison on Thursday in a case that highlighted the struggles of parents trying to stop their children from being radicalized.

Alarmed at Jamshed Javeed's transformation from science teacher to would-be jihadi, his sister recorded family arguments in which he insists he will go to Syria. His family hid his iPad, his insect repellent, his money and finally his passport in a desperate attempt to thwart his travel in late 2013. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Covert intelligence

Britain needs more lady spooks

British lawmakers say the country's intelligence agencies, which inspired James Bond, aren't doing enough to promote real-life Jane Bonds.

A report on women in the intelligence services published Thursday by the U.K. Parliament's Intelligence and Security Committee says female staff members are being held back by a layer of middle managers, who have "a very traditional male mentality and outlook."

The report said that women make up 37 per cent of the workforce at British intelligence agencies, but women account for only 19 per cent of senior staff. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Alabama

State court bans gay marriages

The Alabama Supreme Court has made itself an outlier in the judicial march legalizing same-sex marriages in the United States, drawing rebukes from gay rights advocates and evoking comparisons to Alabama's defiance of federal authorities during the civil rights movement.

The court set up a showdown with a Mobile federal judge this week when it ordered officials in the state to stop issuing same-sex marriage licences pending a U.S. Supreme Court decision later this year on whether gays and lesbians have a fundamental right to marry. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



Snuggie seller to pay \$8M in deception case

The company behind the Snuggie, Perfect Bacon Bowl and other As Seen on TV products has agreed to pay \$8 million US to settle charges that it deceived customers. The Federal Trade Commission said Thursday that Allstar Marketing Group promised customers buy-one-get-one free promotions, but some were still charged for the items in the form of high shipping and handling costs. The FTC said customers were led to believe they would be getting two \$19.95 products for less than \$10 each, but actually paid \$35.85 when a processing and handling fee was applied. COURTESY SNUGGIE'S FACEBOOK PAGE

Employment. Job quality hits 25-year low: CIBC

The quality of jobs in Canada has dipped to its lowest level in a quarter-century, revealing a structural issue that could prove difficult to reverse, says a study by CIBC.

The bank said Thursday its employment quality index, which slipped 1.8 per cent last year, was down 15 per cent since the early 1990s.

The index examines the distribution of full- and part-time positions, the gap between self-employment and higher-quality jobs and

whether full-time jobs were created in low-, medium- or high-paying sectors.

The study found that since the late 1980s the number of part-time positions climbed much faster compared with full-time gigs. On the bright side, it said the number of full-time jobs increased at twice the speed of part-time jobs over the past year. Over roughly the same period, self-employed jobs also rose more quickly than salaried positions. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR
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TSX
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OIL
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GOLD
\$1,196.20 US (- \$4.70)

Natural gas: \$2.841 (+ 7.2¢)
Dow Jones: 18,135.72 (+ 38.82)

Spam

CRTC fines Quebec company \$1.1M

The CRTC is preparing to mete out a \$1.1 million fine against a company it accuses of "flagrantly" flouting Canada's anti-spam legislation. Quebec-based corporate training company Compu-Finder has 30 days to contest the CRTC's ruling. The CRTC alleges the company sent commercial emails to consumers without their consent and did not allow recipients to unsubscribe.

The case was the first time the CRTC has sought to impose a financial penalty under the anti-spam law, which came into effect in July.

The CRTC has received more than 245,000 complaints since the first phase of the law kicked in, said chief compliance and enforcement officer Manon Bombardier. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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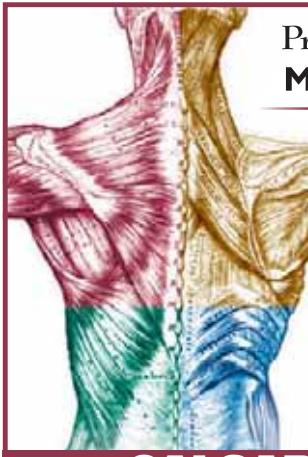
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VOICES

ANTIBIOTICS OR NO, JUNK IS JUNK



THE KOHLER REPORT

By Rebecca Kohler

McDonald's announced this week that over the next two years it will start using antibiotic-free chicken in its restaurants.

While I can't argue that this is a bad thing — it's not — I couldn't help but giggle as I read the article in which I learned the news. In a statement addressing the change, head of McDonald's U.S.A., Mike Andres said, "Our customers want food that they feel great about eating." Ha ha. OK. Well, in that case, why don't you start by losing the name "McDonald's"?

I fully admit that I eat at Mickey D's — I think McNuggets are *delicious* — and, like many of the rest of you, suffer crippling guilt and gas every time I eat there.

But, when I'm weighing the pros and cons of whether to go there, the antibiotic-infused chicken is, like, not even something that crosses my mind. I'm thinking about the fried-food issue, the sodium issue and the amount of money the guy behind the counter is making. I think about mass production and the fact that the chicken in my McNuggets is mechanically ground, sent down a conveyor belt, blended with a con-

cotion of other ingredients, and moulded into that familiar nugget shape.

Again, it's good that McDonald's is phasing out the use of antibiotics.

If we consume food that's been treated with the same antibiotics we might need should we suffer from an infection, our bodies get used to them and they become less effective; we become immune to the drugs. So the next time you have strep throat and your doctor prescribes antibiotics, your body won't be confused as to whether this is medicine or a McChicken.

I'm not knocking the announcement, but I'm still laughing at the idea of McDonald's ever being a place I "feel great about eating" at.

In a similar bid to keep or find "healthyminded" customers, last month, Coca-Cola introduced a new line of beverages in the U.S. called Fairlife — what Coca-Cola calls "premium milk."

To make the dairy-based potion, regular milk is broken down into five parts and then reconstituted into a lower-sugar-higher-protein-lactose-free concoction. While I applaud that effort, has Coca-Cola forgotten that one of the No. 1 nutrition trends of today is to consume fewer processed foods? There is nothing that sounds more un-

Bahahahaha

I'm not knocking the announcement, but I'm still laughing at the idea of McDonald's ever being a place I 'feel great about eating' at.

healthy to me than a Franken-milk produced by Coca-Cola.

Then again, maybe if it were made by Organic Meadow I'd be all over it?

Is this where having an amazingly successful brand starts working against itself? McDonald's will always be McDonald's. It will always be associated with junk food. We've all seen Super Size Me. We all know (and if you don't, you should) that a Southwest Crispy Chicken Salad with ranch dressing has more calories than a Big Mac: Even when you try to eat "healthy" there, you still come out needing a prescription for Lipitor.

Do they really think a mom who wants wholesome food for her children will now come barrelling through the McDonald's door, saying, "No antibiotics?! Please, a Bacon Ranch Junior Chicken and a small fry for my boy! And do you have any of that Coca-Cola milk?!"?

It's kind of sad to see these two junk-food giants scramble to keep their customers in a time where being health-conscious is the coolest fad going.

Still, I find that quote from Mike Andres insulting: "Our customers want food that they feel great about eating."

Seriously, man? You're not an organic farmer — you're McDonald's.

Fast-food chains have been making attempts lately to offer more healthy options to their customers. There are more vegetarian options, fewer trans fats and better access to nutrition guides. Executives from dozens of companies have annual meetings to discuss how to reduce salt and sugar in their food. This is all great.

But at the end of the day, fast-food restaurants also need to embrace what they are: proprietors of unhealthy food that customers flock to because we all — every once in a while — crave cheap, quick, greasy and sodium-rich food that tastes great going down, regardless of what it may do to our bodies later.

Rebecca Kohler is a standup comic, writer, actor, gymnast, lawyer and chemist. (Some of this isn't true.) Follow her on Twitter at @becca_kohler

Happy face/Sad face

From Vulcan currency to flying weasels, Metro weighs in on the news that made headlines this week:



EID TO BECOME A SCHOOL HOLIDAY

The New York City public school system is set to observe a pair of Muslim holidays for the first time. School will close for Eid al-Adha in September, and summer school will close next year for Eid al-Fitr in 2016. They are the first Muslim holidays to be recognized by the nation's largest school system.



STOP SPOCKING YOUR FIVES

No, technically it's not illegal, but the Bank of Canada is still imploring Leonard Nimoy fans to stop "Spocking" their five-dollar bills. The trend of doodling on Wilfrid Laurier's face, to make him look like Spock, picked up momentum this week after the famous Star Trek actor passed away.



HITCHING A RIDE

It's one of the coolest nature shots we've seen in a long time. U.K. photographer Martin Le-May captured, on camera, a weasel hitching a ride on the back of a woodpecker. The incredible photo, which shows the weasel clinging to the flying bird, has gone viral.



PINK SHIRT BULLIES

Sometimes irony can be funny; not in this case. A Calgary woman says her son was swarmed, hit and pushed into an icy puddle for wearing a pink shirt to school on Pink Shirt Day — which raises awareness about bullying. The boy's mom says the school has done little to address the incident, while the school described the situation as "complex."



EASTER NOG

If you've ever wondered, "Hey, why doesn't Easter have its own beverage, like Christmas?" then wonder no longer. An Illinois dairy has teamed up with Peeps (those chick-shaped Easter marshmallows) to make Peep-flavoured milk: Chocolate Marshmallow, regular ol' Marshmallow, and something called Easter Egg Nog. Because, you know, Easter needs more sugar!

From small things, big things come

Analysis. Countless filmmakers have used shorts as inspiration for their big-screen projects

The word 'short' has many meanings.

Pair it with 'pants' and it evokes memories of childhood summers. Match it with the syllables 'and sweet' and it conjures up a pleasant feeling.

But when you partner it with the word film, as in short film, you open up a world of possibilities.

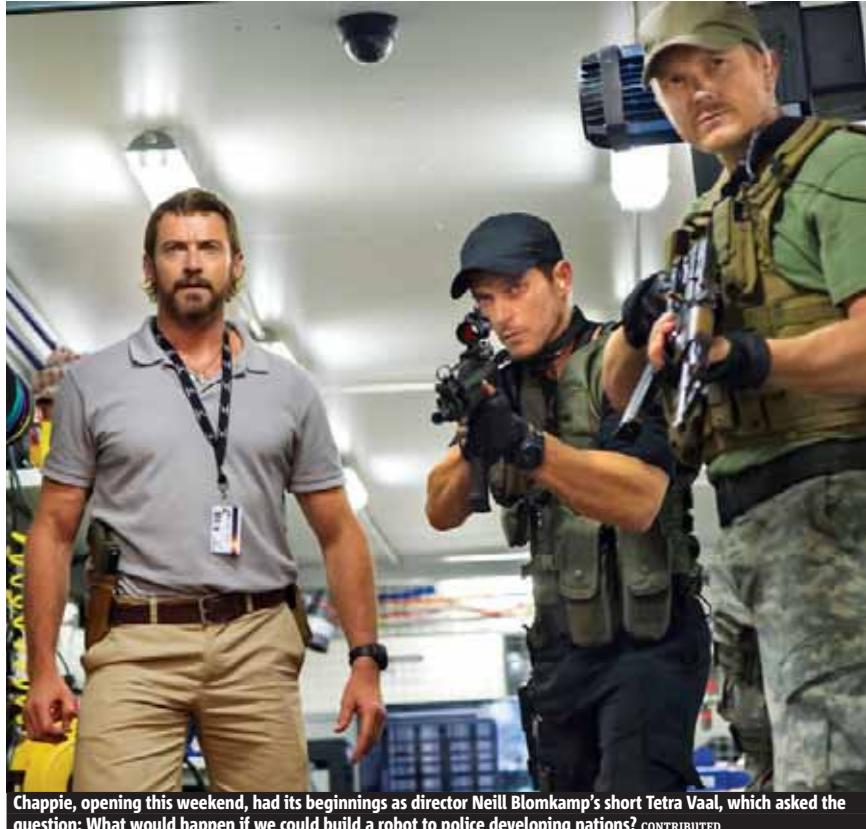
Just ask Tim Burton, Paul Thomas Anderson or Sam Raimi.

Each of them started by making shorts, several of which were later expanded upon to become well known features.

Burton's Frankenweenie first saw life as a Disney short way back in 1984. The Dirk Diggler Story is the 1988 mockumentary short written and directed by Anderson that became the basis for Boogie Nights and Within the Woods was the short calling card that helped Raimi get Evil Dead made.

Short films inspired two of this weekend's big releases.

The Babadook is the feature directorial debut of Australian Jennifer Kent. The horror movie plays up the most terrifying aspect of a primal relationship — the bond between mother and child — coupled with a young boy's fear that a storybook beastie, the titular Babadook, is going to spring from the page and eat them both.



Chappie, opening this weekend, had its beginnings as director Neill Blomkamp's short *Tetra Vaal*, which asked the question: What would happen if we could build a robot to police developing nations? CONTRIBUTED

In Focus

RICHARD CROUSE



The ideas that make The Babadook so unsettling first took shape in a 10-minute short called Monster, which screened at 40 festivals worldwide.

"I had a friend who had a child that she was really having trouble connecting with," Kent told Den of Geek.

"He was little and he kept seeing this monster man everywhere. The only way she could get him to calm down was to get rid of it as if it

was real.

"And then I thought, well what if it was actually real? That's how the short idea came about."

Eleven years ago District 9 director Neill Blomkamp's short *Tetra Vaal* asked the question: "What would happen if we could build a robot to police developing nations?"

The answer may lie in his new feature, this weekend's Chappie.

The South African-born, Vancouver-based director said Chappie is, "basically based on *Tetra Vaal*," with

Richard's ratings

Chappie

• • • •

The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel

• • • •

Kidnapping Mr. Heineken

• • • •

The Babadook

• • • •

the spirit of the South African rap-rave group Die Antwoord infused in the story.

The one minute and 20-second short features Blomkamp's signature mix of gritty realism and high-tech, computer-generated images and stars the "ridiculous robot character" with wild rabbit ears — inspired by Briareos from the manga Appleseed — played by Sharlto Copley in the big-screen adaptation.

Blomkamp said he made his shorts as "a collection of work so I could get representation as a commercial director," but they soon opened a world of possibilities for him when they caught Lord of the Rings director Peter Jackson's eye.

To paraphrase Dave Edmunds, "from small things, baby, one day big things come."

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Now in theatres

Ratings and synopses courtesy of Rotten Tomatoes. For more movie reviews, trailers and news go to RottenTomatoes.com.

Ratings: Certified Fresh: Fresh: Rotten: Audience response: Audience anticipation for the film:

Action & Adventure



Chappie

Director: Neill Blomkamp

Stars: Hugh Jackman, Sharlto Copley

In the near future, crime is patrolled by an oppressive mechanized police force. But now, the people are fighting back. When one police droid, Chappie, is stolen and given new programming, he becomes the first robot with the ability to think and feel for himself.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score

Critics: 20% Audience: + 96%

Comedy



Unfinished Business

Director: Ken Scott

Stars: Vince Vaughn, Dave Franco

A hard-working small business owner (Vince Vaughn) and his two associates (Tom Wilkinson, Dave Franco) travel to Europe to close the most important deal of their lives. But what began as a routine business trip goes off the rails in every way, including unplanned stops at a massive sex fetish event and a global economic summit.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score

Critics: 33% Audience: + 75%

Comedy



The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel

Director: John Madden

Stars: Judi Dench, Maggie Smith

Now that The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel is full with its long-term residents, co-managers Muriel Donnelly (Maggie Smith) and Sonny Kapoor (Dev Patel) have a dream of expansion, and they've found just the place: The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score

Critics: 73% Audience: + 89%

Drama/Comedy



Focus

Director: John Requa, Glenn Ficarra

Stars: Will Smith, Rodrigo Santoro

A con artist (Will Smith) takes on an inexperienced apprentice in this crime comedy from the filmmaking duo behind *Crazy Stupid Love*: Glenn Ficarra and John Requa.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score

Critics: 55% Audience: 62%

Horror



The Lazarus Effect

Director: David Gelb

Stars: Olivia Wilde, Mark Duplass

The Lazarus Effect follows a group of researchers led by Frank (Mark Duplass) and his fiancée Zoe (Olivia Wilde), who've achieved the unimaginable — bringing the dead back to life. After a successful, yet unsanctioned, trial on a newly deceased animal, the team is ready to unveil their breakthrough to the world.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score

Critics: 13% Audience: 30%

Comedy/International



After The Ball

Director: Sean Garrity

Stars: Portia Doubleday, Chris Noth

Kate's dream is to design for couturier houses. Although she is a bright new talent, Kate can't get a job. No one trusts the daughter of Lee Kassell, a retail guru who markets clothes "inspired" by the very designers Kate wants to work for. Reluctantly, Kate joins the family business where she must navigate around her duplicitous stepmother and two wicked stepsisters.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score

Critics: No reviews yet Audience: 71%

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Exposing an all-too-common crime on campus

Documentary.

Filmmakers examine controversial handling of sexual assault claims in U.S. schools

MATT PRIGGE

Metro in New York City

The Hunting Ground is Kirby Dick and Amy Ziering's second documentary in a row on sexual assault being ignored by institutions.

The Invisible War concerned the military; The Hunting Ground zeroes in on college campuses. They found administrations badly handling, if not outright ignoring, sexual assault charges, leaving survivors to band together to form activist groups. Together, Dick and Ziering have been responsible for several muckraking docs, including Outrage (about closeted Republican politicians) and This Film is Not Yet Rated (about the MPAA).

The Hunting Ground seems like a natural outgrowth of The Invisible War. Was that how it started?

Amy Ziering: In the course of going around campuses showing Invisible War, time and again students would come up to us and say, "This happened to me here. A lot of what you pointed out happening in Invisible War happened right here at Occidental or at Berkeley." We started getting letters that said, "I saw Invisible War. Please make a



The makers of The Hunting Ground say they were compelled to create the documentary after hearing the stories of students whose assaults had been disregarded. STILL FROM THE HUNTING GROUND

film about this." After a few months we sat down and said, "We can't not make this film."

What can film do for this issue that, say, a book or an article cannot?

Kirby Dick: First of all, in these cases, you're hearing the survivors' stories. You're seeing them recount them. That's a lot different than reading about it in print. Secondly, a film can just compact everything. It can compact the analysis of a problem

with the emotional experience of the survivors into one very intense package that will stay with the viewers.

AZ: I also think our culture is so ADD and fragmented — when else do you have someone's attention for 90 minutes? It's one form you can still get people to sit there and percolate on something that allows for them to have a transformative experience.

The Hunting Ground is ultimately a hopeful film, as you show that there are sur-

vivors forming groups that reach out across the nation.

AZ: I think they felt like there was finally space in our culture to hear about these crimes, where people were not passing judgment on everyone involved with them. I think we're seeing a shift there. I was surprised by the number of people who spoke about it publicly, about what happened to them, and felt it was necessary to do.

What kind of responses have you heard from

schools so far?

KB: There's been an incredible response from colleges and universities in terms of programming the film. We already have dozens of screenings scheduled around the country. And we've had dozens of more inquiries. That is a good sign. It's one reason we made the film. We felt there would be a real opportunity to show the film on campuses across the country, and have those schools see the problem, the activists and survivors to start



Kirby Dick CONTRIBUTED

pushing for change and the administrators to understand the nature of the problem and find ways to change it, school by school by school.

What can they do to change?

AZ: The schools need to improve their investigation and adjudication processes. It's not about anything these survivors could have done differently. That's a very important point. As much as we love the other work that has been done in the field so far, to some extent it still does put the blame on the people it's happening to and not the people who are doing it.

I'd love to see these crimes to be seen in line with other crimes. You don't sit there and go, "What could have been done differently by someone who's been car-jacked?" Or "Gee, he really should have prevented that murder?" Bad stuff happens, and this is something that is really bad.

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Docs. DiCaprio, Netflix join forces to create green documentaries

Hollywood A-lister Leonardo DiCaprio is working with Netflix to produce a series of documentaries with an environmental and conservation focus, the online streaming giant said Wednesday.

The 40-year-old will serve as producer or executive producer on fact-based programs under the partnership deal between Netflix and his production company Appian Way.

DiCaprio and the pioneering streaming service first worked together on Virunga, a documentary set in Virunga National Park in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The film was nominated for an Oscar this year.

"Working with Netflix on Virunga has sparked a shared vision about projects that we want to develop and bring to viewers," said DiCaprio, in a statement announcing the plans for programs to premiere exclusively on Netflix.

"There's never been a more critical time for our planet or more of a need for



Actor Leonardo DiCaprio walking down 6th Avenue during the People's Climate March last fall in New York. AFP PHOTO/TIMOTHY A. CLARY

gifted storytellers to help us all make sense of the issues we face."

He added: "Through this partnership with Netflix, I hope to give documentary filmmakers doing urgent and important work the chance to have their films seen immediately by audiences all around the world." AFP

Young filmmaker achieves serious success

Film. Dolan's Mommy wins award for highest-grossing French-language film in 2014

Quebec filmmaker Xavier Dolan didn't just have one of the most critically acclaimed Canadian films of the year — it was also one of the most popular.

Mommy, a story about a single mother raising her troubled son, won a Telefilm Canada prize Wednesday for having the highest domestic sales for a French-language Canadian film in 2014.

The film was written and directed by Dolan and made \$3.3 million in domestic sales.

Dolan said its success reflects the diversity of Quebec's movie industry.

He added that while it was important for critics and the international film industry to like his movie, he wanted Mommy to reach a wide audience.

"It's (very) important that the people take the time to see your film," he said. "Otherwise you can't



Actor and director Xavier Dolan. RYAN REMIORZ / THE CANADIAN PRESS

just make movies for mom and dad and a couple of critics. You want people to talk about the film and to bring it home."

Telefilm Canada's prize, called the prix Guichet d'or, is the French-language equivalent of the Golden Box Office Award, which is awarded to the highest-grossing English-language Canadian film.

Dolan also received a \$40,000 cheque from Telefilm Canada.

He said he was particularly pleased with the award because it confirms an authentic creation can also be a commercial success.

"What this (award) says is that there was a public for 'Mommy', that people went to see the film and that they

liked it — and I couldn't be happier with that."

Since its release last May, Mommy has won numerous awards including the Cesar Award in France for best foreign film as well as the Jury Prize at the Cannes Film Festival. It also won nine trophies at the Canadian Screen Awards.

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Tina Desai is feeling good as Marigold

Movies. Indian actress joins ensemble cast once again in *The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel*

NED EHRBAR
Metro in Hollywood

Get to know Tina Desai, currently starring in *The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel*, and coming soon to Netflix in the Wachowskis' *Sense8*.

Performance that inspired you to become an actress: Shah Rukh Khan's performances. He's just a force in India, and of course I was one of those who was affected by his charms. I became an actor because I realized his films made such an impact on my life.

Perk of fame you're most looking forward to taking advantage of: Free makeup! I was just offered that by my makeup artist. It doesn't get better. Oh,

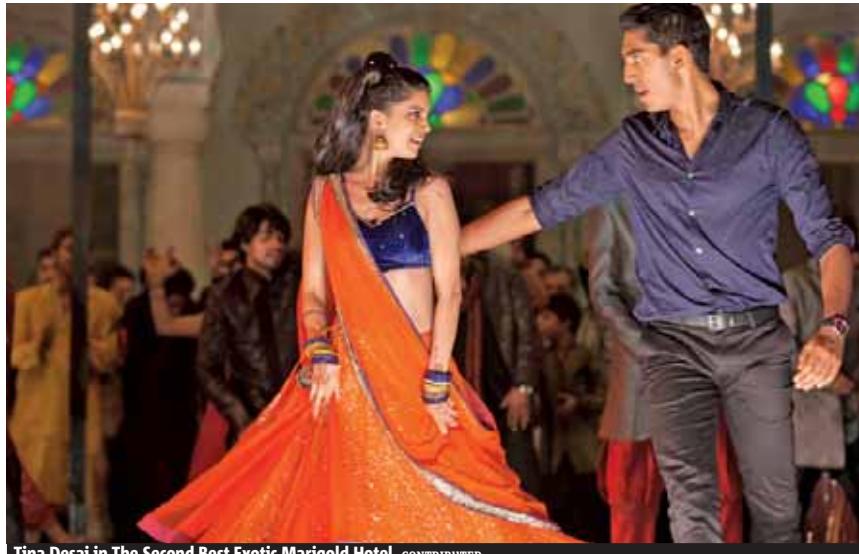
and when you get to travel a bit more. And you get to stay at Claridge's, which I hear is such a big deal.

First celebrity crush:
Hmm ... (Indian film actor) Shah Rukh Khan.

The last thing you Googled: Let me check and tell you (looks at phone). The weather. The weather in London. I wanted to know whether I would freeze or not at the premiere.

Last book you read: I'm still reading it. It's Elmore Leonard's *Freaky Deaky*. It was a gift to me from (English actor) Bill Nighy, actually, because I was reading some other books that he completely trashed and said, "You will not read this!" It was a controversial writer who he felt really strongly about.

The best person to follow on Twitter or Instagram: Ellen DeGeneres. She's really funny. I love following her. There's also Obama, because I'm interested in politics. And



Tina Desai in *The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel*. CONTRIBUTED

now there's Narendra Modi, our prime minister, who's extremely tech-savvy.

What happens after you die: I don't know myself. There are so many people that say you go to heaven, you go to

hell, you come back to earth reincarnated. I don't get any of them. I would prefer that you just die and that's it, nothing happens after. That makes a little bit more sense. You come here, you do your thing and that's it.

Ideal Saturday night:

Oh, I just entered the party phase. I used to be the one who would sit at home and read a book and chat with people over the phone, but I've been given more liberty. I live with my family and I

used to have a deadline of 10 o'clock but now it's 2 o'clock, so it's very exciting. I actually can go out and dance. That's probably boring, that's probably what you did when you were 16, but I've only just started.

Dream role: Two things really excite me, though I have no idea how I'll do them. One is to do something completely fantasy-based, like a *Pirates of the Caribbean* or a *Harry Potter* or *Lord of the Rings*, which is something that's completely based on imagination, so you can do whatever you want. I don't know how strong my imagination is, I might completely muck it up. The other one would be to do a biopic, and then you have no freedom. You have to completely follow that person, look like them, talk like, think like them. Those are both extremely difficult, but I think they would be fun. I really think I might muck it up like hell, but I don't know and it seems challenging.

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Role no tiptoe through the Marigolds, Judi Dench says

Acting. The British Dame of filmdom revisits her Best Exotic Marigold Hotel role

This likely won't make any other actors feel too great about their prospects, but even Judi Dench says that finding work is tough. And that's after winning an Oscar, becoming a dame and appearing in seven James Bond films. So what hope does the rest of the acting community have?

"I take what's offered. I don't think it gets easier," Dench offers. "It's the same thing with everybody, I think, that you play something, and very often after that you're sent something that is very, very similar to what you've just done."

While she waits for some enterprising young playwright to craft something more exotic for her, Dench is revisiting some previous work for a sequel to the 2011 surprise hit *The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel*. And while it might sound surprising for a woman who has played some fairly terrifying and challenging roles, aging expat Evelyn proved to be one of her most difficult — because the character is so close to herself, while she prefers to play people as much removed from her as possible.

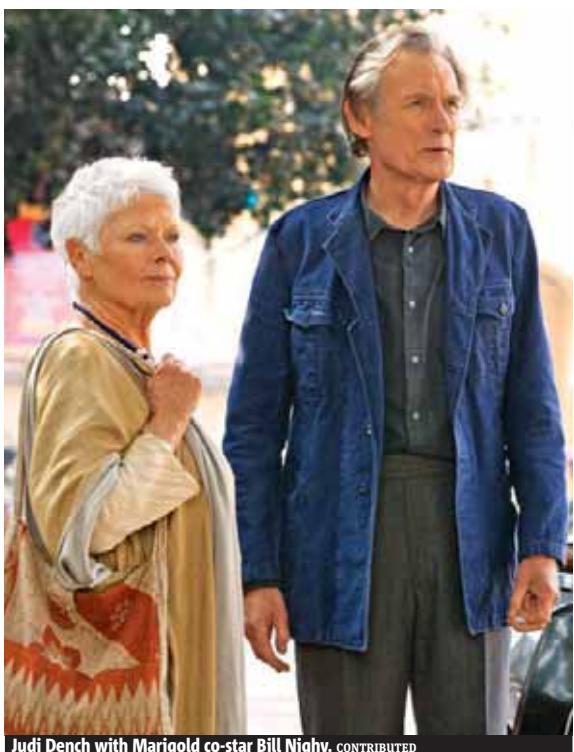
"Four years ago, the one thing that worried me was

that I used to be made up and get into my clothes and they'd say, 'OK, you're ready.' And I'd look into the mirror and I'd think, I don't know where this person is because all I see is me looking exactly like me wearing clothes that I would wear," she admits. "We tried lots of things, like dying my hair, but none of it worked. I just looked ridiculous. So I did find that very, very difficult indeed."

The discomfort clearly paid off, though. Dench admits the success of the first *Marigold Hotel* was something of a surprise, but she has a theory as to why it resonated with audiences so strongly. "I think it was probably the last thing people thought it was going to be," she says. "It was about a lot of people over a certain age who didn't give up, who were all prepared to take on a risk of some kind and had a bit of life left in them — which you know, after a while people don't think you should have."

So, then, how about a third instalment, continuing on the surprise franchise? "Oh, a third one. Wouldn't it be heaven? Wouldn't it be? I'm up for that," she says. And she even has an idea of how the casting department could top the addition of Richard Gere in this film. "Johnny Depp. Especially playing with me," she says, giggling uncontrollably. "What's the magic in Johnny Depp? Sex, of course."

NED EHRBAR/METRO IN HOLLYWOOD



Judi Dench with Marigold co-star Bill Nighy. CONTRIBUTED

Of bewitching India and a hairy motorcycle ride with Bill Nighy

Judi Dench admits that tackling *The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel* — as well as the original film — felt a bit like a con on her part. "If you're paid to go to India for eight weeks one year, and four years later you go back?"

Bewitching," she says. "And with a per diem! Paid for being there, just learn the lines, get on with it, do it as well as you can."

- But doing as well as you can is difficult sometimes, like

when director John Madden has her riding on the back of a motorcycle with co-star Bill Nighy — a key image from the first film that's repeated in the sequel. "That was pretty hairy," Dench admits. "You know he has

this thing, Bill, where he has that carpal what's-it's-name? So he has to drive it [with two fingers from each hand]. And I'm on the back thinking, 'Oh well, it's all right,' but then John says, 'And now wave!'"

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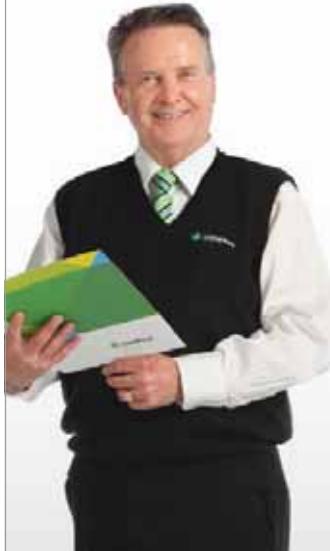
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Jared Keeso, left, is the star of a new Canadian TV series based on his online series of shorts, Letterkenny Problems, about growing up in rural Ontario. CONTRIBUTED

YouTube star turns rural boy sketches into comedy series

On-demand. Jared Keeso's TV comedy based on online shorts Letterkenny Problems

The crass musings of a country boy named Wayne are leaping from YouTube to CraveTV.

Bell Media says its on-demand streaming service has commissioned its first original Canadian series — a six-part, halfhour comedy called Letterkenny that will star 19-2 actor Jared Keeso.

The show is based on Keeso's Internet venture Letterkenny Problems, a five-part series of shorts that has garnered millions of views. Like the online version, the series will centre on a country boy named Wayne and his life on the farm in Letterkenny, Ont.

"It will be as filthy and crass and unintelligent as it was in the web sketches," Keeso promised Thursday during a break from writing scripts in Toronto.

"We don't want to mess with a good thing there. We want to give the audience something that they're already familiar with."

Keeso, from Listowel, Ont., is billed as creator, executive producer and co-writer. The Trotsky writer-director Jacob Tierney will executive produce, direct and co-write and Keeso says additional advice comes from Goon and Fubar director Michael Dowse. Nathan Dales will co-star as Wayne's sidekick, Daryl.

Letterkenny was commissioned in partnership with The Comedy Network, which will also air the series.

Hicks, skids and hockey players

Keeso, who won a best actor CSA Sunday for role in 19-2, said the stories are drawn from personal experience.

- "This is something that comes from my own hometown, Listowel, Ont. I'll be pulling from a lot of first-hand experience there, growing up in a town
- "We'll explore the different groups in the town, why they don't get along."



Jared Keeso
THE CANADIAN PRESS

where getting your (butt) kicked is a legitimate concern on a day-to-day basis," said Keeso, who divides the community into "hicks," "skids," and "hockey players."

• "We'll explore the different groups in the town, why they don't get along."

Canuck writer catches lucky comedy shake

Television. Tim McAuliffe teams up with star Will Forte for new comedy *The Last Man on Earth*

Tim McAuliffe remembers the very day he began working on *The Last Man on Earth*, which airs Sundays on Fox.

It was last St. Patrick's Day, March 17.

"There was a small earthquake that morning," the Canadian writer says on the phone from his home in Los Angeles. "They called it the 'Shamrock Shake.'"

The quake seemed like a perfect way to begin crafting a comedy set in a post-apocalyptic world.

McAuliffe joined a writer's room headed by creator, executive producer and star Will Forte (*Saturday Night Live*). Forte had teamed up with red-hot executive producers Phil Lord and Chris Miller (*The Lego Movie*) to make a series about a very average guy who — after a deadly virus seemingly wipes out everyone else — finds he's humanity's last hope.

The series opened strongly last Sunday on Fox in the U.S., winning its time slot among younger viewers. Most critics loved it too, with the Hollywood Reporter's Tim Goodman heralding it as "a significant deviation from the safe comedic norm of television."

Sideline

Mr. D star Gerry Dee launches a beer that tastes like cider

Sitcom star and standup comic Gerry Dee is getting his own beer.

The Mr. D lead is partnering with the start-up Alcohol Company to launch Crazy Beard Wild Apple Ale.

The malt-based beverage made with barley hops is flavoured with apple concentrate and is billed as "a beer that tastes like a cider."

Crazy Beard will be available in Ontario.

Dee stars on the CBC-TV sitcom Mr. D as a bumbling high school teacher. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



The Last Man on Earth airs Sundays on Fox. FRANK OCKENFELS/FOX

Originally from Montreal, McAuliffe started his career at MuchMusic in Toronto before earning his comedy chops in Halifax working on *This Hour Has 22 Minutes*. He followed *22 Minutes* with a writing stint on *Corner Gas* and then worked on both sides of the border. He created *Satisfaction* for CTV in Toronto and

wrote for Jimmy Fallon's Late Night in New York and *The Office* in L.A.

While writing for the short-lived Will Arnett NBC comedy *Up All Night*, he hit it off with guest star Forte. When Fox gave *Last Man* the green light, Forte raided the *Up All Night* staff, including the Canadian.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Celebrity roast. Snoop Dogg, Shaq to fry Bieber

Rapper Snoop Dogg, former NBA star Shaquille O'Neal and lifestyles guru Martha Stewart are among the celebrities set to skewer Canadian pop star Justin Bieber at his upcoming roast.

The eclectic list of roasters also includes rapper Ludacris, and comedians Hannibal Buress, Chris D'Elia, Natasha Leggero and Jeffrey Ross. Though Bieber wanted fellow Canadian actor Seth Rogen to take part, the comedian's name was not on the list.

Comedy star Kevin Hart will host The Roast of Justin Bieber. It will premiere March 30 on The Comedy Network.

Bieber, who is featured on the latest cover of Men's Health magazine, was this



week denying accusations on social media that the topless shoot was photoshopped.

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Tallulah Willis ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Gossip

NED EHRBAR

METRO'S TAKE
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Tallulah makes dating a bit Moore awkward

You know what's super-awkward when you're trying to carry on a nice, normal, grownup romance? Having your 21-year-old daughter around all the time to kill the mood. At least, that's what Demi Moore is reportedly discovering since having youngest daughter Tallulah Willis move in with her following Willis's

45-day rehab stint last summer, according to the National Enquirer. Apparently the living arrangements are getting too cramped for Moore's boyfriend, musician Sean Friday.

"Having Tallulah around the house has almost completely killed the romance between them," a source says.

"Whenever Sean and Demi

go out to dinner or a yoga class, Demi invites Tallulah along. She invites her friends over, too, which gives Sean and Demi very little privacy. Sean told Demi if Tallulah doesn't go, he will. But Demi warned Sean that if push comes to shove, he's the one who'll get the boot." This sounds like it will end well.

Ladies, meet live-action Gaston



Luke Evans

No one's got a swell cleft in his chin like ... Luke Evans? The Welsh Hobbit star — who recently and wisely dropped out of a remake of *The Crow* — has been tapped by director Bill Condon to play walking embodiment of male vanity Gaston in his live-action *Beauty and the Beast* opposite the already announced Emma Watson as Belle, according to the *Hollywood Reporter*.

Christina latest to hit a bad note with Voice crew: Source



Man, The Voice sounds like such a pleasant place to work. While Adam Levine and Pharrell Williams are busy feuding with each other, fellow judge Christina Aguilera has been busy driving the production staff crazy.

"She just has ridiculous demands since coming back as a judge, and everyone is wishing she

did not return," a source tells Radar Online. "Christina is such a terror to work with. She is frequently late and she doesn't even seem to care or apologize for holding up the filming of the show. To make matters worse, she is constantly fighting with Adam. They cannot stand each other."

You know, I'm no expert, but I'm starting to see a common element in all these Voice backstage strife stories, and it rhymes with Shmadam Shmevine.

The show that (almost) started with a bang

TV. Actors' near-collision pre-shooting reflects future clash of characters in Creek

RICHARD CROUSE
scene@metronews.ca

Josh Duhamel and Dean Winters had never met before starting work on the new police dramedy Battle Creek.

"I was actually driving onto the lot in Manhattan Beach for a fitting," says Winters, the actor known for his roles on Oz, 30 Rock and the Allstate Insurance commercials, "and I wasn't



Dean Winters and Josh Duhamel star in Battle Creek, which airs Sundays on Global. CBS HANDOUT

Broadway

Hollywood heads to the stage

Bruce Willis is making his Broadway debut this year in a stage adaptation of Stephen King's Misery. That announcement follows the news of Clive Owen's upcoming Broadway debut. Here's a rundown of Hollywood stars making their first appearances on the Broadway in 2015.



Bruce Willis
GETTY IMAGES

is making her Broadway debut in Thérèse Raquin, based on the novel by Emile Zola.

Knightley will play the ill-fated title character, a restless young woman who falls in love with her husband's childhood friend. Opening Oct. 29.

Bruce Willis

Willis will star opposite stage veteran Elizabeth Marvel in this new adaptation of the Stephen King novel. It's set to open in fall 2015: theatre is yet to be announced.

Clive Owen

Harold Pinter's Old Times will be the vehicle for British actor Clive Owen's Broadway debut. He'll appear in the lead role of Deeley, whose wife is visited by an old friend, for the Roundabout Theatre Company's production. Opening night is Oct. 15.

APP

Keira Knightley
Not a stranger to the stage, the British actress

Under the radar

"They get a lot of crime you wouldn't expect in what seems to be a very all-American town."

Josh Duhamel
On Battle Creek, Michigan

looking where I was going and literally, true story, almost ran Josh over. That was our first encounter."

Their jarring introduction could have been useful as they created their characters: a Battle Creek, Mich. cop and an FBI agent who butt heads on police procedure and everything else. But they decided not to be too

method in their approach to the work.

"To me, that is a sign of insecurity in people who don't know what they are doing," says Winters.

Instead the pair did on-the-job research to get under the skin of their characters.

Duhamel spent time with Battle Creek cops, doing ride-alongs with their undercover officers, drug enforcement

team and gang unit. "There is some real stuff happening in that town," he says. "Nobody would ever suspect, because it sits right in between Detroit and Chicago, but they get a lot of riff-raff fleeing either city and hiding out there. They get a lot of crime you wouldn't expect in what seems to be a very all-American town."

Winters says "the best

part of the ride-alongs is actually listening to the cops talk. They have their own language, their own rhythms in the way they talk to one each other. It's really fascinating. I don't think anyone has ever really captured it, to be honest with you.

"It truly is a whole different world. I really do think the relationship Josh and I have is pretty close, especial-

ly when we're driving down the street in the Suburban. A lot of those conversations are priceless. I think (Canadian series creator-writer) David Shore has a real ear for that."

On screen, the pair investigate a series of wild cases.

"The crimes we are investigating on the show you won't see anywhere else," says Duhamel.

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Savage behind the camera

As he prepares to make an acting comeback opposite Rob Lowe in TV comedy *The Grinder*, we cast a look at some of the directorial adventures of late '80s and early '90s child actor Fred Savage, star of *The Wonder Years*

AFP

Boy Meets World (1993-2000)

Only six years after leaving *The Wonder Years*, Fred was making his directorial debut in 1999 with one of the final

(and unaired) episodes of office comedy *Working*. But it was behind the camera of another coming-of-age comedy, *Boy Meets World*, that Savage got his network debut at the turn of the century, directing his younger brother Ben in two final-season episodes.



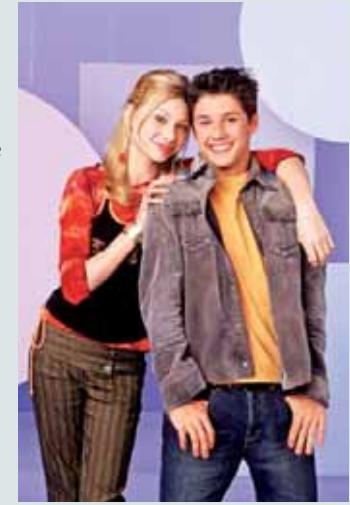
Unfabulous (2004-2005)

Before long, Fred was earning director's credits on 10 of the 28 episodes in this teen sitcom's first two seasons, which had Julia Roberts' niece Emma as its lead.



Phil of the Future (2005-2006)

Fred's move into a producer's role came with Disney's time-travelling family sitcom, and he even scooped a prestigious Director's Guild of America award nomination for one of the nine episodes he directed, *Not-So-Great Great Great Grandpa*. He'd be up before the DGA again before too long.



Daddy Day Camp (2007)

Savage's feature film debut may be his worst effort so far, though in financial terms it was no bomb, making back triple its modest budget in box-office returns (\$18 million). With the cast and crew from Eddie Murphy vehicle *Daddy Day Care* replaced, this followup was nominated in five categories at the 28th Golden Raspberry Awards. Savage escaped a Worst Director win, but the film took Worst Prequel or Sequel. One year earlier, he starred in TV comedy *Crumbs*, which managed five of 13 episodes before being pulled from ABC.



Wizards of Waverley Place (2007-2008)

This magical high school serial was responsible for not only reinforcing Savage's reputation in the TV business, but also establishing Selena Gomez as a giant Disney TV star. Charged with directing the very first episode, Savage was once more nominated for a DGA, and then again for his Zeke and Luther pilot two years later.



Modern Family (2011-2015)

Further directorial success on *It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia* and *Party Down* brought Fred to *Modern Family*. He steered the multi-threaded ongoing comedy to its fourth DGA nomination on only his second time in charge, Season 2's *After the Fire*.



Notice of Hearing For Permanent Guardianship Order To Justin Butcher

Take notice that on the **13th day of March 2015 at 9:30 a.m.**, at **Calgary Family Court, Courtroom #1205, 601 – 5th Street SW, Calgary, Alberta**, a hearing will take place.

A Director, under the Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act will make an application for: **Custody Order; Permanent Guardianship Order** of your children born on **March 16, 2006 and October 22, 2009**. If you wish to speak to this matter in court, you MUST appear in court on this date. You do have the right to be represented by a lawyer. If you do not attend in person or by a lawyer, an Order may be made in your absence and the Judge may make a different Order than the one being applied for by the Director. You will be bound by any Order the Judge makes.

You do have the right to appeal the Order within 30 days from the date the Order is made.

Contact: Jackie Ellice; Leanne Baines; Daniella Eggink
Calgary Region, Child and Family Services
Phone: (403) 297-2978

Notice of Hearing For Permanent Guardianship Order To Zoe Fraser

Take notice that on the **11th day of March 2015 at 9:30 a.m.**, at **Calgary Family Court, Courtroom #1205, 601 – 5th Street SW, Calgary, Alberta**, a hearing will take place.

A Director, under the Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act will make an application for: **Permanent Guardianship Order** of your child born on **March 1, 2014**. If you wish to speak to this matter in court, you MUST appear in court on this date. You do have the right to be represented by a lawyer. If you do not attend in person or by a lawyer, an Order may be made in your absence and the Judge may make a different Order than the one being applied for by the Director.

You will be bound by any Order the Judge makes.

You do have the right to appeal the Order within 30 days from the date the Order is made.

Contact: Jackie Ellice; Daniella Eggink
Calgary and Area Child and Family Services
Phone: (403) 297-2978

Notice of Hearing For Permanent Guardianship Order To Brian McDowell

Take notice that on the **11th day of March 2015 at 9:30 a.m.**, at **Calgary Family Court, Courtroom #1205, 601 – 5th Street SW, Calgary, Alberta**, a hearing will take place.

A Director, under the Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act will make an application for: **Permanent Guardianship Order** of your child born on **March 1, 2014**. If you wish to speak to this matter in court, you MUST appear in court on this date. You do have the right to be represented by a lawyer. If you do not attend in person or by a lawyer, an Order may be made in your absence and the Judge may make a different Order than the one being applied for by the Director.

You will be bound by any Order the Judge makes.

You do have the right to appeal the Order within 30 days from the date the Order is made.

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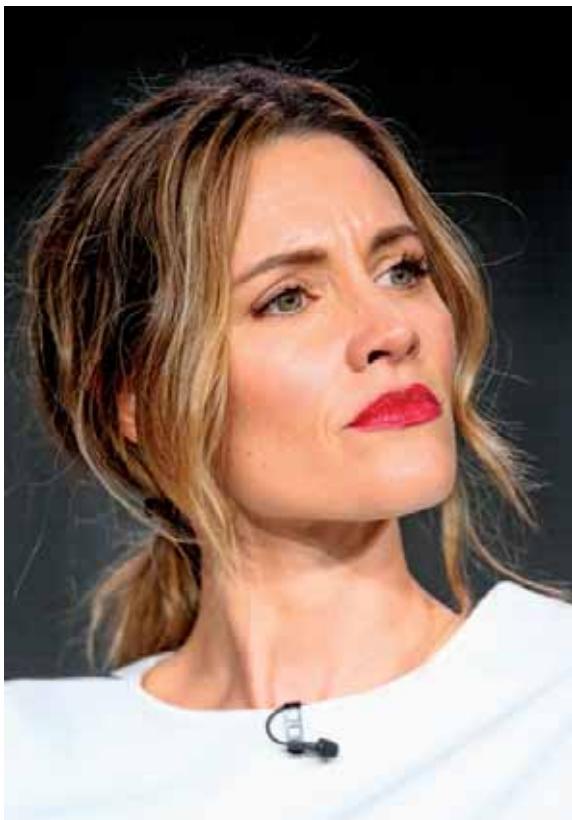
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KaDee Strickland is the star of a new TV series called *Secrets and Lies*.
GETTY IMAGES

For KaDee Strickland, it's all about the practice

Interview. Actress talks about her work with Shonda Rhimes and getting ready for a very different TV role

LISA WEIDENFELD
Metro in New York

KaDee Strickland is making a big career jump onscreen. Known for playing Dr. Charlotte King for six years on *Private Practice*, she's now appearing in the 10-episode *Secrets and Lies* as Christy Crawford, a realtor and the wife of a man (Ryan Phillippe) who's accused of killing a small child who begins to suspect her husband may be guilty.

She's going from the tried and true scripts of *Grey's Anatomy* and *Private Practice*

Quoted

"Everything about it from a creative standpoint is different for me, because I've always known my process."

KaDee Strickland on working on *Secrets and Lies* after *Private Practice*

tice screenwriter and director Shonda Rhimes to a pilot for a show based on an Australian series. So just how different have the two experiences been?

Moving from Shondaland to Secret land:

"Everything about it from a creative standpoint is different for me, because I've always known my process. When I was in Shondaland, it was a beautiful experience that I had prior to motherhood, so I knew how to do it. I'd done it for six beautiful years of my life. I love working with Shonda. It's full on,

it's surprising at all times, and in a completely different way, I can say the same about this."

And about that career change:

"You can't get any further away from Charlotte than a real estate professional. I had gel nails, I never did that on *Private Practice*. Eyelashes, gel nails, all this stuff, but it was also fun for me because I would go in the neighbourhoods around where we were and do the research and I looked at real estate agents and I actually pretended to

be looking for a house and that was so different from delving into life-and-death surgery every day and that kind of stuff."

What was noticeable after she observed realtors:

"The way they talked with their hands at times. The way they would stand, the way they would present a room and then walk away and come back with new information. And there were certain scenes where I would find myself just kind of doing my hands in a certain way, and it was like my personal shout-out to my research. Which was fun, because you gotta mix it up."

And the main similarity between the two projects:

"I had the great Barbie Kligman (who wrote the show), and either way, I was working for two badass women."

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Liquid Assets

Celebrating mulled wine



LIQUID ASSETS
Peter Rockwell
@therewineguy
liquidassets@eastlink.ca

If you blinked, you may have missed National Mulled Wine Day on March 3.

In a world happy to acknowledge the existence of everything from beer (April 7) to tequila (July 24) with their own 24 hours, the idea of giving props to a classic winter beverage makes perfect sense to me.

The great thing is mulled wine is so easy to make.

All you need to do is warm up a bottle of fuller-bodied red (or fortified) wine then add a dash or two of liqueur and a handful of spices.

While the Romans were the first to piece together the recipe, almost every European country has its own version, all of which are readily available online.

Don't spend a lot when it comes to choosing a wine. I prefer using a cheaper red from Spain, Portugal or Chile.

San Pedro's 2013 Gato Negro Cabernet Sauvignon (\$8.95 - \$10.99) is a well-rounded Chilean with enough guts to take the heat and still turn out tasty. PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.



Online

Drinkup with Google

Google is adding "live" cocktail recipes to its search results. Data is drawn from a host of sources to offer not only a list of ingredients for many of the world's most popular mixed alcohol-based beverages, but also step-by-step guides. As the results are live, the recipes and methods will change as trends move on.



This recipe makes about 3 cups (750 ml) of sauce. COURTESY RICARDOCUISINE.COM

Ricardo is a Canadian chef, television host and author on a mission: To unite people through the pleasure of food. Discover his delicious and simple recipes every Friday — just in time for the weekend

Turn your kitchen into a cooking class

Breakfast. Replace bulky pancakes with these Thin Crepes and get the little ones involved



RICARDO COOKS
Chef Ricardo
Ricardo Magazine

flour, sugar and salt. Add the eggs, 1/2 cup (125 ml) of the milk and the vanilla and whisk until smooth. Gradually add the remaining milk, stirring constantly. Whisk in the melted butter.

2. Preheat a 9-inch (23 cm) non-stick skillet over medium heat. When the skillet is hot, brush it with butter.

3. For each crepe, pour about 3 tbsp of batter in the centre of the skillet. Tilt the skillet to spread the batter evenly until it covers the entire bottom of the skillet. When the edge peels off easily and begins to brown, flip the crepe with a spatula. Continue cooking for about 10 seconds and then remove from the skillet.

4. Place the cooked crepes on a plate as you go. Cover with aluminum foil to keep them from drying out and to keep them warm. Delicious with maple syrup or blueberry sauce.

Who knows: You might discover that you have a Ricardo-in-training in your midst.

FOLLOW RICARDO ON SOCIAL MEDIA AND ON RICARDOCUISINE.COM OR SUBSCRIBE TO HIS MAGAZINE'S ENGLISH EDITION, WHICH LAUNCHED IN 2014.

1. In a bowl, combine the

Ingredients

- 1 cup (140 g) unbleached all-purpose flour
- 2 tbsp sugar
- 1 pinch salt
- 2 eggs
- 1 1/2 cups (375 ml) milk
- 1/2 tsp (2 1/2 ml) vanilla extract
- 1 tbsp (14 g) unsalted butter, melted
- Softened butter, for cooking



This recipe makes about 14 crepes. COURTESY RICARDOCUISINE.COM

Topping. Quick and Easy Blueberry Sauce

1. In a saucepan, combine water, sugar and cornstarch with a whisk. Add blueberries. Place the pan on the stove over medium heat and stir with a wooden spoon until sauce simmers. Let it cook 1 minute.

2. Remove from the heat and then let sauce cool for about 30 minutes. You can keep the sauce in the refrigerator and reheat it in the microwave oven, if needed.

RICARDO

Ingredients

- 1/2 cup (125 ml) water
- 1/4 cup (53 g) sugar, or more to taste
- 2 tbsp cornstarch
- 4 cups (560 g) frozen blueberries

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NHL

Pominville scores tying and winning goals for Wild

Jason Pominville scored two third-period goals, Devan Dubnyk made 24 saves, and the Minnesota Wild rallied for a 2-1 win over the Washington Capitals on Thursday night.

Pominville tied the game with his 14th goal of the season off a scramble in front of the net at 9:19 of the period, then blasted a high shot past Braden Holtby from the left circle with 5:32 left after a Washington turnover in the neutral zone.

Curtis Glencross scored for the Capitals, his first since coming to Washington from Calgary in a trade on Sunday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Islanders sweep season series against Predators

Brock Nelson scored with 6:08 left, helping the New York Islanders rally after blowing a two-goal lead in the third period with a 4-3 win over the Nashville Predators on Thursday night.

With the win, the Islanders moved back atop the Metropolitan Division ahead of the idle Rangers and swept the season series with Nashville for the first time. The Islanders had been 2-7-0 all-time in Nashville, which came into the game second in the Western Conference.

Jaroslav Halak made 28 saves as the Islanders also snapped a two-game skid and send the Predators to their fifth straight loss.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



The Flames' David Schlemko scores the shootout winner against Bruins goalie Tuukka Rask on Thursday in Boston. MADDIE MEYER/GETTY IMAGES

Flames deke out Bruins in shootout

NHL. Calgary earns first win in Boston since December 2003

Sean Monahan scored Calgary's first goal at Boston in more than eight years, and the Flames earned their first road win against the Bruins since 2003 with a 4-3 shootout victory on Thursday night.

David Schlemko ended the shootout in the eighth round with a series of fakes on Boston goalie Tuukka Rask, who

Shootout final

4	3
Flames	Bruins

wasn't ready for the last one as Schlemko tapped the puck into the net to clinch Calgary's first win at Boston since December 2003.

Jiri Hudler and Johnny Gaudreau also scored for the

Flames in regulation, and Karri Ramo made 34 saves, then allowed just one puck past him in the shootout when Patrice Bergeron scored to open the seventh round.

Brad Marchand and Milan Lucic scored for the Bruins, and Loui Eriksson added a third-period goal to tie at 3-3 and force overtime.

Rask finished with 29 saves and helped Boston salvage a point by getting the game to overtime as Calgary pushed in the final minute of the third period.

Hudler tied it at 2-2 with

5:34 left in the second period when he slapped in a long rebound. Gaudreau gave Calgary its first lead on a wrist shot from the right circle that got through traffic and beat Rask 4:59 into the third period. Calgary's second power-play goal of the game gave the Flames a 3-2 lead.

Eriksson poked in a rebound to tie it with 9:16 left in the third. Chris Kelly had tipped the puck in on Ramo, who stopped it but couldn't get to the rebound before it bounced to Eriksson.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

4
SPORTS



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Taylor Sanheim of the Calgary Hitmen checks Garan Magness of the Edmonton Oil Kings at the Saddledome in early December. The WHL seems to have entered a kinder, gentler era with teams taking fewer penalties than in the past. GETTY IMAGES

Penalties. WHL future: Fewer fouls and more skill

Referees in the traditionally rough-and-tumble Western Hockey League have been sending offenders to the penalty box at a record low rate this season.

As the 2014-15 campaign draws to a close, multiple teams could break the WHL's record for fewest penalty minutes in a season set by the 2013-14 Everett Silvertips with 816 in 72 games. Everett, with 646 minutes in 64 games, will almost certainly break that mark, as will the Kootenay Ice, who have been whistled for just 631 minutes in the same span.

As recently as three seasons ago, every team in the league racked up at least 1,000 minutes. This season could finish with as few as three teams topping that benchmark, and only the Prince George Cougars have already reached four digits.

Teams are fighting less but are also taking fewer minor penalties. This season, WHL teams average about 4.1 power

Power plays per game

6.7

In 2006-07, the average WHL team saw 6.7 power plays per game. Loosening of some rules brought that down to approximately 5.5 the next season, but there's been a steady decline since as the sport continues to tighten restrictions on violent hits.

plays per game.

"I think that's a good thing," said WHL director of officiating Kevin Muench. "The game is changing; there's more emphasis on speed and skill."

Muench said there's been no "conscious effort" by the WHL's officiating arm to decrease penalty calls. He cites coaching and education in explaining why there are fewer whistles.

"We've been meeting with teams for a handful of years about penalty infractions and we talk about how standards are going to be applied," said Muench. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Fiasco could lead to fewer risqué tweets

Social media. Lawyer for Phaneuf, Cuthbert and Lupul got an apology from TSN but seeks further justice

An inflammatory tweet that appeared on TSN has served as a reminder that while social media may appear to be a lawless land filled with snark, vitriol and half-truths, it's also subject to the same scrutiny — and libel laws — as newspapers or television.

And, legal experts say, public figures are becoming increasingly savvy about shutting down the online rumour mill. TSN apologized earlier this week after a tweet from a fan about Maple Leafs captain Dion Phaneuf, his wife Elisha Cuthbert and forward Joffrey Lupul ran on a live crawl at the bottom of the screen during Monday's NHL trade deadline show.

The apology followed a legal threat from a lawyer representing Phaneuf, Cuthbert and Lupul. "That's the main goal: you want to just end the story," said the trio's lawyer, Peter Gall. "There's just no truth to it."

Gall threatened legal action this week against the network and the tweeter, Anthony Adragna. The network said the tweet was broadcast



Elisha Cuthbert and her hockey-playing husband Dion Phaneuf took legal action this week after TSN ran an inflammatory tweet from a fan in its scrolling ticker during Monday's trade deadline coverage. CHRIS POLK/GETTY IMAGES

despite protocols to prevent inappropriate social-media posts from making it to air, though they haven't explained how. TSN has said it will no longer air public tweets during live coverage.

Gall said Phaneuf and Cuthbert had grown familiar with "outrageous" false statements being made about them online, but seeing them broadcast on TSN was the final straw.

"You can't sue everybody who says something to you for defamation, but there reaches a point where you just have to do something.

That point was reached once it was re-published on TSN," he said.

While TSN already apologized, Gall said he's hopeful he will also reach a resolution with Adragna's lawyer soon. Adragna did not immediately respond to requests for comment on Twitter but he has since deleted the post.

Defamation lawyer Peter Downard stressed that the same libel test applies everywhere, even on Twitter. If a reasonable person could consider a statement to be damaging to another's reputation, then it can be the subject of a

defamation lawsuit.

Downard said a defamation lawsuit can be successful whether a tweet is seen by 100 people or one million, though he added that the amount of damages awarded would likely be smaller if the audience is smaller.

"People have to understand that when they are publishing on the Internet, through whatever type of Internet communication, they're publishing to the world at large," he said. "They can hurt people and they can be held responsible for that."

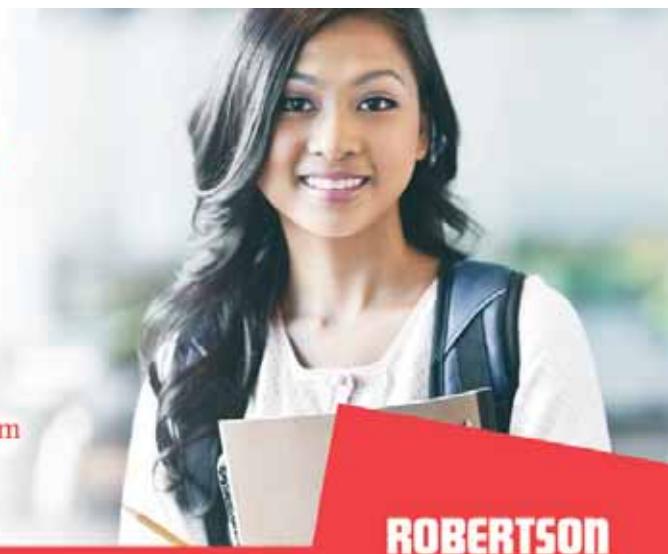
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Jays prospects dig in Down Under

MLB spring training.

Big league hopefuls gain cult status, valuable experience in Australian Baseball League

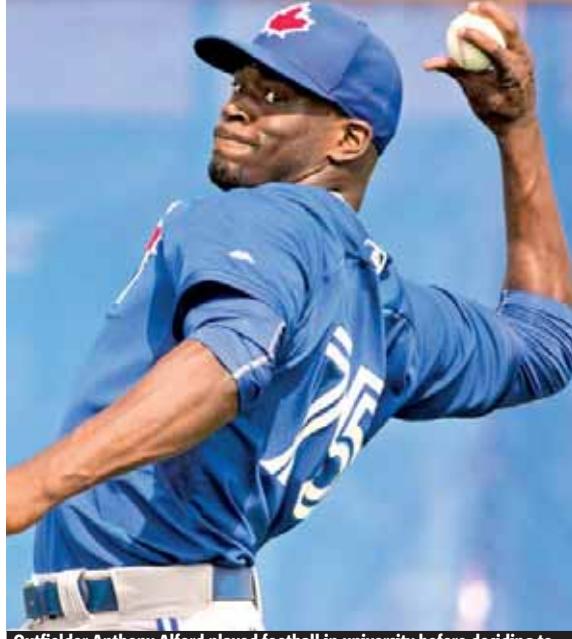
A former collegiate football player, Anthony Alford is new to pro baseball. But the Blue Jays prospect has already taken his bat and glove Down Under.

Toronto minor leaguer Jack Murphy, meanwhile, is somewhat of a baseball celebrity in Australia.

While both are currently in spring training with the Jays, Alford and Murphy have used the Australian Baseball League to hone their skills playing winter ball for the Canberra Cavalry.

"A great experience," said Alford, a soft-spoken outfielder who spent three months playing in Australia over the winter.

The Jays have sent prospects to Canberra the last four



Outfielder Anthony Alford played football in university before deciding to focus solely on baseball last fall. RICK MADONIK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

years with the 26-year-old Murphy enjoying three stints in Australia.

"I love the league there," he said. "You learn how to play to win. And it gives the chance for some of the Blue Jays minor-league guys to come down and develop and work on their skills so when they get back here, they're better off and farther down the road."

Murphy was named the Cavalry's MVP in January. He also picked up the club's Player of the Year and Silver Slugger

awards. The 20-year-old Alford played quarterback at the University of Southern Mississippi before transferring to University of Mississippi to play safety. A third-round Jays pick in 2012, he told the team last fall that he was going to focus on baseball. The timing was perfect for the Australian league.

"I didn't want to just sit around in the house and do nothing. I'd rather be playing somewhere, training," Alford said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"I can say I've definitely gotten a hell of a lot better playing in that league."

Blue Jays prospect Jack Murphy on the Australian Baseball League

Max Scherzer

Nats' \$210-million man dinged up in spring debut

Max Scherzer gave up a home run to John Mayberry Jr. in his two-inning debut for Washington, and Kila Ka'aihue hit a two-run shot in the seventh to lead the Nationals to a 5-4 victory over the New York Mets on Thursday.

Starting the Nationals' spring opener after signing a seven-year, \$210-million contract this winter, Scherzer needed just eight pitches in a perfect first. He gave up two hits in the second. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Yu Darvish ended last season on the DL with elbow inflammation. GETTY IMAGES

Surprise, Ariz. Rangers pull Darvish after 1 inning

Yu Darvish first felt the tightness in his triceps in the bullpen, when the Rangers ace was warming up for his spring training debut. Twelve pitches later, it hadn't loosened up.

So, Darvish wound up leaving Thursday's game against Kansas City for precautionary reasons after only one inning, long before the Royals rallied in the ninth for a 5-4 victory.

"We don't want to risk anything at this point," Texas manager Jeff Banister said. "You want your guys to be completely honest with you with how they're feeling."

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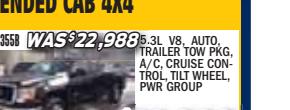
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